THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

REGISTERED No. 44.

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY.

OLUME XXVII.
UMBER 39.

CALCUTTA:—MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1880.

Per Annum in Advance.
TOWN.....11-8.
MOFUSSIL .....13-4.

THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 20TH SEPTEMBER.

THE FOLLOWING statement shews the progress of the Registration of Assurances in Bengal:

YEAR.	NUMBER OF REGISTRATIONS. Affecting immovable property. Compulsory.	Optional.	Other registrations.	Total.
1865 66 ..	49910	20590	27683	98183
1866-67...	101422	49346	31391	182159
1867-68 ..	119700	41335	26815	187850
1868-69...	125438	42794	45739	213968
1869-70...	160920	52034	39239	252193
1870-71..	159963	49862	31888	241713
1871-72...	158077	55431	31762	245270
1872-73...	174788	67130	37162	279080
1873-74 ..	203519	79409	45441	328369
1874-75...	250340	98970	74563	423873
1875-76...	265265	106629	85767	457661
1876-77 ...	268125	104436	93013	465574
1877-78 ..	312022	121842	116406	550269
1878-79...	349094	136121	113936	599151
1879-80...	337524	147610	123975	609109

GIVES a statement of registration receipts and [illegible]:

	Total receipts.	Total expenditure	Surplus.	Number of registration offices.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
	[illegible]	[illegible]	99123	178
	[illegible]	[illegible]	93803	182
	[illegible]	[illegible]	84775	187
	[illegible]	[illegible]	68172	172
	[illegible]	[illegible]	98873	173
	[illegible]	[illegible]	76863	180
	373136	280961	92175	156
	435319	304782	130537	168
	[illegible]	329431	153678	221
	[illegible]	[illegible]	165872	246
	[illegible]	[illegible]	139103	290
	[illegible]	420158	136714	310
	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	295
	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	297

Thus the Registration Department has become a fertile source of revenue. Why should not the benefit of the surplus be given to the public and the fees reduced?

THE REGISTRATION of immoveable property constituted four-fifths of the whole last year. The total number of leases of all kinds registered in Bengal during 1879-80 was 245,574, distributed as follows:—

Perpetual leases	126,137
Other cumpulsory leases...	114 903
Leases for one year or less	4,534
	245.574

Of this number it may be assumed that 95 per cent, refer to cultivated land, a very small number relating to houses, tanks, orchards, and gardens. The bulk of the leases registered were perpetual leases. The Inspector-General of Registration remarks that it has always been a characteristic of these deeds that they occur most frequently in the Eastern districts comprised in the deltas of the Ganges and the Brahmaputra, as if fixity of tenure were sought with an avidity in inverse proportion to the stability of the soil to which it relates. Jessore again stands first, with 31,638 perpetual leases, a slight falling off from the 32,805 which it registered in 1878-79. Backergunge and Chittagong are second and third with 19,767 and 19,491 of such deeds respectively, but there has been a considerable advance in both since the previous year. Furreedpore occupies the fourth place with 9,461 perpetual leases against 11,015 in 1878-79, and the 24-Pergunnahs, with 7,979 (as against 7,732), and Noakholly with 6,860 (as against 4,851) are fifth and sixth. Nuddea is seventh on the list with 4,804, only 30 less than the 4,834 it registered in 1878-79.

REFERRING to perpetual leases the Inspector-General of Assurances says: "As these leases are usually accompanied by a heavy fine or fee on entry, it is argued that those who take them can be in no want of ready money. In Tipperah also special causes have been at work, viz., the settlement of their estates by certain large zemindars, and it is noted that the high prices which cultivators have got of late years for their rice and betelnut have greatly improved their condition as a body, and enabled many of them, through the device of the perpetual lease, to become virtual proprietors of their own holdings. But if the new Rent Bill should become law the ryots will not have to pay anything in the shape of fee for perpetual leases for areas above 100 bigas. Under the operation of the proposed law the ryot will become co-proprietor of the land. Is not this justice *par excellence*?

THE REGISTRATION REPORT gives the following interesting particulars about the proportion of counterparts to leases registered. Looking first at the total for all Bengal, we see that in every 100 deeds 65 counterparts are registered to 35 leases. The proportion of leases to counterparts is highest in Chota Nagpore, where the figures are as 56 to 44. In Orissa, on the other hand, another backward and uncivilized tract, the leases are only 28 to 72 counterparts. In Bengal proper the proportion between leases and counterparts is 33 to 67; and in Behar it is as 52 to 48. In other words, in the Hindustani-speaking districts of Behar and Chota Nagpore rather more leases than counterparts are registered; in Bengal and Orissa the proportion is reversed, and many more counterparts are registered than leases.

THE REGISTRATION FIGURES shew that the mortgages of small properties are on the increase. Of the eight districts which shew the greatest advance three are in the Presidency Division, viz. 24-Pergunnahs, Nuddea, and Moorshedabad; three, viz. Dacca, Noakholly, and Backergunge, in the Dacca Division; and two, viz. Bancoora and Midnapore, in that of Burdwan. The new Rent Bill interdicting the mortgage of ryoti holdings will facilitate their sale, and will thus improve the ryot off the face of the earth.

TUESDAY, 21ST SEPTEMBER.

THE FOLLOWING peculiarities of registration are noted by the Inspector-General of Registration:

Not many documents of an unusual character are reported to have been registered. Engagements for personal service are noted from Maldah, and *dadnis* from Gya. These are deeds evidencing advances of money made by the Gyawals to their "crimps" or pilgrim-recruiters, who disperse themselves over the length and breadth of Hindustan collecting the devout, and finally conducting them to the sacred city. The Gyawals pay a certain sum per head for every pilgrim who is thus brought to them, From Chittagong Mr. Manson writes: "Documents registered are of an ordinary character. The *kabanimahs*, however, executed by the Mussulmans in the event of marriage are very peculiar, and contain amusing and absurd conditions. A fond father would insist upon the conditions that his daughter must not perform hard household work, and must be sent in a palki whenever she wishes to visit her relatives. In arranging the conditions of a *kabanimah*, the question of stamp is as important as that of dowry. No matter what the amount of the latter is it is firmly believed by the contracting parties that the heavier the stamp duty, the more valid the *kabanimah* will be. The Roman Catholic "Feringhees" of low class have commenced to follow the Mussulmans in this matter, and in some instances outbid them."

In the Cuttack office three brothers registered deeds binding themselves to mess together with their families whenever they happen to be at the same place, to avoid family disputes, to defray all their expenses from out of their joint income, and to divide their savings equally at the end of each month. Should discord invade this primitive family, and should any one of them fail to carry out any of the conditions of the contract, he was to make over to each of his brothers one-third of the property he had given to his wife previous to the date of execution of the documents.

THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL thus notices the conduct of the officers of his department during the past year:

Mr. Harrison officiated as First Inspector, throughout the year, and Baboo Hemchunder Kerr was Second Inspector and discharged the duties of the appointment until he took privilege leave on the 1st of January 1880. His place was taken by Moulvie Dailluddin Khan, Deputy Magistrate. All these officers have given satisfaction and have not shrunk from the duties of their appointment which are often of an exceedingly arduous nature.

A more general attention seems to have been given to registration by District Registrars during the past year than formerly as might be inferred from the greater number of inspections made by them; my thanks are due in a marked degree perhaps to Messrs. Oldham, Wyer, and Westmacott, and to Babu Protab Chandra Ghosha Registrar of Calcutta. Special Sub-Registrars almost without exception have done well though some, probably under the orders of the Rigistrar, were remiss in their inspection duties. The best were Behari Lal Chandra (Kishnaghur) Jagut Chunder Gangooly (Chittagong) Kristocharan Bysack (Mymensing), Abinashchunder Mittra (Pubna), and Raghunundun Sahai (Patna). Sub-Divisional and Sudder Offices were kept in better order than usual this year and the following officers deserve particular commendation: Mr. Savage (Rampur Hat) Mr. White (Barh) Mr. R. C. Dutt (Cutwa) Mr. K. G. Gupta (Kendrapara) Kumar Gopendrakrishna (Culna) Mr. Rattray (Gya) Baboo Ram Krishna Deo Singh (Bishenpore) and Baboo Binode Behari Sirkar (Soory). Among Rural Sub-Registrars it would be easier to mention the few who have been reprimanded than to select the best from so many good. The following officers however may be taken particularly deserving of praise viz Shyamachurn Singh (Chagda) Abdul Bari (Amta), Nilratan Roy Chowdry (Maksudpore) Poolin Behari Mozumdar (Pandua) Isshanchunder Koar (Goghat) Keshablal Roy (Gadkhally,) Gurgachurn Das (Gournadi) Syed Waqar Hossein, Colgong, Jogendrochunder Mookerji Prithiba. The services of my head-assistant Baboo Nilmoney Dey have again been most valuable.

THE FOLLOWING table shows the result of the civil litigation in all the courts of Bengal in which Government was a party as compared with the two previous years:

	1877-78.	1878-79.	1879-80
Decided in favour of Government ...	417	853	379
Decided against Government ...	71	75	306
Compromised, remanded, or withdrawn	19	24	35
Transferred		5	...
Percentage in favour of Government...	85	92	55

REFERRING to the above the Legal Remembrancer says, "that a large mass of litigation—in all 608 suits—had been instituted without any communication with this office, and I added that it was difficult to determine beforehand the result of this action. We now know that of the 308 appeals which appear as decided against us in this table, 268 cases belong to that litigation." Who is responsible for suits instituted by Government?

THE FOLLOWING is the result of Government litigation in the Lower Appellate Courts:

	1877-78.	1878-79.	1879-81
Decided in favour of Government ...	35	29	31
Decided against Government ...	10	9	277
Compromised, remanded, or withdrawn	3	4	4
Transferred ...	0	5	0
Percentage in favour of Government...	77	76	10

The Legal Remembrancer says, "268 out of the 277 appeals decided adversely to Government were suits for enhancement of rent in the Government estates of Buktiarpore and Malinuggur lying in the Durbhunga district. These suits were conducted without reference to this office." We ask again—who is responsible for Government suits?

WE GIVE below an abstract of the Gya escheat cases from the report of the Legal Remembrancer:

One Barati Begum daughter of a peadah in the service of one of the Delhi Shahzadas residing in Benares and whose mother was an attendant at one of the town serais was in the keeping of Mode Naryan Sing, Raja of Tikari. The Raja had no sons by his legitimate wives, but two sons and one daughter by this Begum, who had obtained immense ascendancy over him and for that reason secured lavish gifts of money, jewels and land. Barati survived the Raja and died in 1860, when her descendants took possession of all her property. Upon the death of her younger son Ekbal Bahadoor, the eldest son Himmut Bahadoor instituted suit against the widow of the former for obtaining possession of her mother's property alleging that as his mother and her parents were Shiahs he was entitled to it, besides he added that the widow was a concubine of his brother. The widow in her reply not only proved the validity of her marriage, but pleaded that the plaintiff was an illegitimate child and could not succeed to his mother's property. This plea defeated the brother but it also upset her own claim. Mr. Justice Kemp threw out a suggestion in his judgment that since the brother and widow had no claims the property should escheat to the Crown. The Government took no steps until after the Privy Council had affirmed the judgment of the Lower Court.

The widow Shahebzadi Begum dying left all her property to her husband's sister's son named Jelaluddin. The Government instituted suits in 1878 leaving out of the claim a property, Belkharrah Pergunnah, valued at 20 lakhs of rupees, claiming only property consisting of cash jewels, mesne profits amounting to Rs. 38,83 710. In the defence the heirs set up the plea that the Government could not claim an escheat when Barati Begum had left heir and at the trial a personated witness was produced who alleged she was Baratis sister. The court found this witness was not Barati's sister nor were the other claimants any relations of Barati's and this included Barati's children. A decree for a large sum of mesne profits and all the landed property was awarded. In the fourth case Government claimed as escheat the property given to Shahebzadi Begum by her husband Ekbal Bahadoor. The property claimed was valued at Rs. 1,69,740 of which half a lakh was paid on account of a debt of Shahebzadi Begum. The first three cases above mentioned were appealed, but the appellants (defendants) offered a compromise if Government would not contest the decree obtained in the Lower Court, and give up the mesne profits and pay its own costs. To Jellaluddin the nephews of Ekbal Bahadoor a compassionate allowance of Rs. 250 per month has been granted on his application.

WEDNESDAY, 22ND SEPTEMBER.

THE PROJECT of a ship canal between the Bay of Biscay and the Mediterranean is said to have taken strong root in the minds of the French people, and, if carried out, it would undoubtedly add to the naval power of France, by her being able to throw her fleet quickly from the Bay of Biscay to the Mediterranean, or *vice versa*, as occasion offered. The proposed canal would be 406 *kilometres* in length;

would have 62 locks and 15 water levels, the highest point being 152 metres above the level of the two seas, at the Col de Naurouse near Toulouse. The proposed depth is 8½ metres, and the water would be supplied by the Garoune, the Aude and other smaller streams. The total cost of the undertaking is estimated at 600,000,000 fcs. or £24,000,000.

SIR RICHARD TEMPLE has been one of the "lions" at the British Association meetings this year. The greatest interest, we read, was centred in the Geographical Section, in which Sir Richard Temple explained the high road from the Indus to Kandahar, in an interesting lecture.

THE FOLLOWING are a few interesting particulars of Parliamentary obstruction: During the past session of Parliament, Mr. Gorst spoke 105 times, besides asking 18 questions. Sir H. Wolf made 68 speeches, and asked 34 questions; Lord R. Churchill made 74 speeches, and put 21 questions, Mr. Biggar made 58 speeches, and Mr. Finigan 47 speeches. Six members in the short session made 407 speeches.

IRISH MATTERS chiefly occupied the attention of the House of Commons during the last week of August. Mr. Dillon demanded the adjournment of the House, in order that Mr. Forster might explain the terms "wicked" and "cowardly," which he had used in reference to Mr. Dillon's recent speech at Kildare. Mr. Forster amid vociferous cheering, said that he adhered to every word he had uttered on the occasion referred to. The adjournment was negatived.

THE FOLLOWING UKASE has been issued by the Czar of Russia:

By our ukase, dated February 24 with a view to put an end to the audacious attempts of evil-doers to subvert the State and social order in Russia, we established a Supreme Executive and appointed Count Loris Melikoff with extraordinary powers. Having followed the labours of the Chief of the Commission, we have become convinced that the immdiate object of the Commission, the unification of all authorities incombating the spirit of sedition, has been so far attained that our further wishes in regard to the maintenance of social order may be effected by ordinary legal meads, with some extension of the jurisdiction of the Ministry of the Interior. Consequently, and in order to consolidate the unity of action in the existing organs of the Executive authorities, we decree—first, the closure of the Supreme Executive Commission and the transference of its affairs to the Ministry of the Interior; secondly, the abolition of the third section of our Chancery; a transference of its affairs to the Ministry of the Interior, and the formation in the Ministry of the Interior of a special department of the State police to conduct such affairs pending the fusion of all the police bodies of the Empire in one department of the said Ministry; thirdly, the direction of the Corps of Gendarmes is given to the Minister of the Interior, with the rights of Chief of Gendarmes; fourthly, the Minister of the Interior shall terminate all questions raised in the Supreme Commission, and shall have the right to call members of the Commission, now closed for the purpose of special consultation fifthly, governors, generals, and other authorities, in cases in which, according to the ukase of the 24th of February, they referred to the Chief of the Supreme Executive Commission, shall in future address themselves to the Minister of the Interior, to whom is given the supreme direction of all State crimes on the same basis as belonged to the Chief of the Supreme Commission; sixthly, with the view of lightening the multifarious duties of the Ministry of the Interior without violating its present legal signification, the departments of the post and the telegraphs shall be separated from the said Ministry and, together with the department of spiritual affairs and of foreign creeds, shall be given into the charge of a person whom we shall appoint; seventhly, the charge of carrying into force the preceeding to be placed upon Ministers of the Interior and our decision is to be asked in cases of necessity.

"ALEXANDER."

IN OUR ISSUE of the 30th August last we expressed an opinion in favour of the transfer of Small Cause Court suits from Bongong to Ranaghat. Our opinion in that case was formed from the facts laid before us by some inhabitants of Moheshpore. We have since received another version of the story which in all fairness deserves a hearing. This writer says:

"The distance of the Moheshpore Thanna from Bongong varies from 12 to 30 miles, not 28 to 44 miles, from Ranaghat it is not less than 38 miles. Between Bongong and Moheshpore there are tolerably good roads, whereas between Ranaghat and Moheshpore there are none which deserve the name. The inconvenience experienced by the people who are obliged to visit Ranaghat for the purpose of prosecuting their civil suits is so great that they generally relinquish portions of their claims to bring their suits within the limit cognizable by the Bongong Court. The amount of their relinquishments during a year generally exceeds Rs. 3000. There is no foundation for the statement that the cases of Moheshpore suitors are sometimes struck off the file for their unavoidable delay in reaching Bongong. The pleaders of Bongong made no counter-petition against the proposal of the section of the Moheshpore people who gave you the information and no petition of theirs came to Bongong for report. A petition purporting to have been signed by some of the inhabitants of Moheshpore came to the 1st Munsiff of this sub-division who had it posted in a conspicuous part of his Court-house with a notice inviting opinion for and against the proposal which was to have been heard on a day fixed for the purpose. On the particular day none of the petitioners appeared, but several hundreds of the tradesmen, dealers, money-lenders and others of Moheshpore filed a petition praying to have the Small Cause Court at Bongong."

Evidently there is party feeling in the matter.

THE FOLLOWING is from a correspondent at Meerut:

The long cherished impression that cities in the North Western Provinces are health-resorts has vanished, they are now nearly as unhealthy as or more than many Bengal villages. Meerut of to-day is nothing like Meerut of yore. Fever of a virulent type raged here epidemically last year and swept away thousands. There is not a family which has not had some bereavement to moarn over. Except for a few cases of cholera this year is comparatively a healthy one. We are being deluged with rain for the last four days, there was a heavy and incessant downpour. The rains may cheer the agriculturists, they have cast a gloom over the Bunyas who calculated upon making a rich harvest from scarcity. The price of wheat has already fallen from 16 to 20 seers per rupee and it is expected, it will go on declining. The rains have committed a havoc among the houses many of which have come down, many rendered untenable owing to leakage and other damages. We had lately the august presence of three distinguished visitors, Roma Bye, Dyanand Swarusutti and Col. Olcott. The great Mahratta lady's acquirements, which came in full glory in her four lectures, have evoked universal admiration. Some people here say she is a European in disguise and aims at making converts in the zennana.

THURSDAY, 23RD SEPTEMBER.

WE LEARN from a Mysore letter that there has been abundant rain in and about Bangalore. The crops are said to be in a flourishing condition.

THE COMPARATIVE merits in the cure of fever of the cinchona febrifuge, cinchonine, and cinchonidine were tested by certain trials made in some of the interior stations of the Madras Presidency and the result is not unsatisfactory, but Dr. King, Superintendent of the Royal Botanical Garden, Calcutta, suggests that to ascertain the curative effects of the Sikkim cinchona a trial may be made at the several hospitals in the town of Madras.

THE STATESMAN publishes a mysterious paragraph relating to the fact of two Hon'ble Judges of the Calcutta High Court having gone out *incognito* on their holiday excursions. The Judges alluded to are the Hon'ble Justice Pontifex and the Hon'ble Justice McDonnell. Did they leave before the Court was closed?

WE ARE glad to notice that the Madrissa Literary Club, the proceedings of which shew that there is an earnest spirit among the better educated Mahomedan gentlemen of this part of the country to secure for themselves a more liberal education than they now enjoy, has given its adhesion to Syud Amir Hossein's scheme. It is believed that the Lieutenant-Governor thinks kindly of the scheme.

THE MAGISTRATE of Allahabad has convicted the Editor and the Publisher of the *Indian Medical Gazette* on a charge of defamation brought against them by Dr. Hall. Dr. Hall established at Allahabad and for a long time maintained at his own expense, an eye infirmary for the benefit of poor patients. Subsequently being desirous of placing the institution on a permanent footing he applied to Government for a subsidy. The Government agreed to the proposal on condition of a substantial quota of the expenditure being raised from the public. Dr. Hall advertised for subscriptions and in the advertisement gave some account of the infirmary and the nature of the service rendered to the public by the infirmary. The *Indian Medical Gazette* made the following remarks thereupon:

"Our attention has been drawn to the fact that a medical officer, serving in a large town in the North-Western Provinces, is in the habit of soliciting, by advertisement, subscriptions to an Eye Hospital which he has established. The medical transactions of the institution are set forth in the advertisement. 'There have been 180 major operations including 95 cataract operations, 31 iridectomies; with one exception these have all been successful.' The advertiser is certainly entitled to be congratulated on this marvellous success; but it is hardly consistent with the feelings and usages of the medical profession to herald them forth in this fashion. We are not surprised to find that the line he has elected to adopt has not met with the approval of his brother officers serving in the same province, and we have no hesitation in pronouncing his proceedings in this matter unprofessional."

One would think that this was fair and legitimate criticism, but the Magistrate of Allahabad has taken a different view. As the case is likely to be appealed, we abstain from comments on the jugdments.

FRIDAY, 24TH SEPTEMBER.

THE MARQUIS OF HARTINGTON said in the House of Commons that the Treaty of Gundamack must now be taken to cease to exist. So the Beaconsfield —*cum*—Lytton policy about the scientific frontier in Affghansthan is at an end.

MR. BRIGGS, M.P., has given notice that next Session he will call attention to the unsatisfactory and arbitrary manner in which import duties on Indian cotton goods are now levied, and will move for a Commission of Inquiry.

LADY BURDETT COUTTS has just succeeded to fresh wealth. Colonel Sir Robert Burdett, Bart., having died without leaving any will and without having been married, letters of administration of his personal estate and effects were granted on the 14th ult. to the Right. Hon. Angela Georgina, Baroness Burdett-Coutts, the sister of the deceased, and one his next of kin. The personalty, including leaseholds, was sworn under £300,000. According to the Bengali proverb water arrests water.

WE LEARN that a Treaty of Peace has been projected between Chili and Peru, whereby the former Power becomes master of all the territory of Bolivia on the Pacific. The cost of the war, 40,000,000 dols., it is stipulated shall be borne by Peru.

THOUSANDS of persons have been rendered homeless by a hurricane which occurred at Jamaica on the night of the 18th ultimo. The crops, fruit trees, and farm produce have, for the greater part, been destroyed. Famine is said to be imminent, and help is required for the thousands who are starving.

REPLYING to Mr. Bradlaugh, Lord F. Cavendish was understood to state that India would certainly be responsible for the £2,000,000 which had been lent to that country. This amount was lent by the Beaconsfield Government.

THE BOMBAY REVIEW has the following:

It is impossible that this affair of Kutch can be left as it is. Government have no right whatever though of course they have the power, to huddle away the official papers relating to the business. This is not a mere departmental matter. The late Rao in prospect of his untimely demise, stipulated that a Council of Regency should be appointed and this was confirmed by the Government of India. It does not seem constitutional that a mere secret department or even a chance majority of the Governor-in Council should have power to sweep away that Regency Council of Kutch. Still less can it be expedient that this should be done when the result is to leave as master of the principality a Political Officer who is obviously unsuited for independent charge anywhere. Let us have the papers.

We say *ditto*.

SATURDAY, 25TH SEPTEMBER.

THE SCHISM in the Theosophical Society seems to be spreading. A letter from Mr. Edward Wimbridge shews that the feelings among the leading spirits of the Society are any thing but brotherly.

WE HAVE received the first report of the Vikrampore Sanmilani Sabha. The object of this Society seems to be good.

THE HIGH COURT has drafted certain rules regarding the fees to be paid to the Vakils of the Court and to legal practitioners of all classes in the Mofussil Courts, as well as to Mooktears of the High Court. The Vakils of the High Court have been asked to submit their opinion on the draft rules. They have appointed a Committee on the subject with Mr. Twidale, as Chairman, and Babu Amarendranath Chatterjea, as Secretary.

THE FOLLOWING is from a correspondent at Hazaribagh:

On the 22nd August last the second-master of the Government Zillah School went to a respectable native shop to make some purchases. On entering the shop he felt in with some Europeans one of whom a Mr. W. E. Murray approaching the school-master accosted him saying—"Damn native, you are here with your shoes on"—and then struck him with his whip. The assaulted Baboo was strong enough to give a return then and there but he preferred to seek lawful remedy. He first visited the planter's residence accompanied by two friends to ask for explanation, the planter very politely asked them to walk out and go to court taking the trouble to spell out his name. A complaint was preferred before the Deputy Commissioner Major Samuells and the planter on the receipt of the summons sent one of his servants with the cane he had used in the assault in proof that the beating could not be serious. The Deputy Commissioner refusing to hear the servant directed the defendant to depute a properly accredited agent. The plaint and deposition of the complainant and the defendants being considered conclusive evidence judgment was given against the defendant who was fined Rs. 25.

Pecuniary fines upon such deliberate transgressors of law and humanity are simply thrown away. A few days' expiation in jail may sober them down.

WE ARE glad to learn that the Maharaja of Durbhanga has granted a scholarship of Rs. 15 and a prize of Rs. 20 to be given to the most successful candidates at the next Sanskrit title examination.

OUR PURBANAPARA CORRESPONDENT in the Howrah district writes:

A few years ago Colonel Haig suggested the advisability and importance of opening a canal passing through the towns and villages of Satragachi, Shibpur, Audul, Makurda, Domejur, Bally &c., but it is to be regretted that for reasons unknown the scheme was abandoned. Amongst other benefits expected from the execution of the scheme it would have drained the deadly marsh of Rajapore which is the hot bed of malaria and the receptacle of noxious reptiles. There is good reason to believe that this *bada* is the fountain of the diseases which have decimated the surrounding villages. Cannot Colonel Haig's scheme be revived?

WE HAVE had lying before us for some time past the late Babu Bholanath Muzoomdar's treatise on Plane Trigonometry in Bengali edited by his son Babu Behary Lal Muzoomdar. It is a posthumous work and the second publication on the subject in Bengali, the first being one by Babu Brahmo Mohun Mullik, Assistant Inspector of Schools. The author has devoted more space to the functions of triangles

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than is usually the practice, but they will prove of great advantage to young learners. We notice that the methods of representing numerically the magnitudes of lines and angles, the definitions of trigonometrical ratios, the relations of trigonometrical ratios, given in the introductory chapter, are more verbose than elucidatory. On the whole it is a creditable performance, and the imperfections we have noticed would not, we are satisfied, have existed had the author lived to revise it.

THERE WERE 204 deaths in Calcutta during the week ending 18th September, of which 3 were from cholera, 1 from small-pox, 60 from fevers, 21 from bowel complaints, 3 from accidents and suicide, 14 from phthisis and asthma, 23 from tetanus and the rest from other causes. Fourteen children were still-born, 57 died between the ages of 15 days and under and above 15 days and under one year, 24 persons died at the age of 60 years and upwards. The deaths among non-Asiatics and mixed races were 12.

WE HEAR that the case of the poor clerks who petitioned His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General against the proposed stoppage of their Simla allowances has not been finally disposed of. Neither the proposal to locate government officers permanently at Simla has been approved. The question has been referred back to the Committee of Secretaries for reconsideration and submission of their final opinion to His Excellency. Mr. Chapman, the Financial Secretary, it is believed, is determined to carry out his own hobbies regarding the location of the officers and the withdrawal of the allowances. We hope nothing will be done till Major Baring takes charge of the Financial Department.

A FRESH VAGARY of the Deputy Commissioner of Dhubri has been brought to our notice. A Road Cess Clerk, newly appointed, was questioned by him about the untidiness of a certain godown. The clerk replied that he did not know that it was his duty to look after the godown. The polite Deputy Commissioner replied *badmash nikalo*, so says our correspondent. Is it too much to expect the Mofussil Bahadurs to be civil to their subordinates and the outside world?

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals:—1. Report on the Administration of the Persian Gulf Political Residency for 1879-80. 2. The Criminal Justice Report of British Burma for 1879. 3. Records of the Geological Survey of India Vol. XIII, Part III. 4. Army Circulars, 1880. 5. Letters on Affghan Affairs in 1880. 6. The Statesman, No. 4 September, 1880. 7. Bunga Durshun, No. 77. Bhaddur 1287 B. E. 8. Nolini—a Bengali monthly No. 6, Assin, 1287 B. E. 9. Sundurbhaboli or a series of essays in Bengali. By Hurrynath Banerjea. 10. Avash—a Bengali periodical, No. 8, for Assin 1287, B. E. 11. Annual Report of the Government Experimental Farm, Cawnpore, for 1878-79.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London September 22nd.—Admiral Seymour has ordered the Consuls at Scutari to remove to a place of safety.

Paris, September 18th.—The Minister of War General Farre, the Minister of the Interior, M Lepere and the Minister of Justice M Cazot have resigned because the execution of the March decrees is in abeyance.

19.—A later interview between the Ministers has shown that the compromise entered into on the question of the execution of the March decrees was hollow and that the divergence was irreconcilable. M. De Freycinet the President of the Council of Ministers, has resigned and M Jules Ferry has undertaken to form a Cabinet.

Constantinople 21st.—The Porte has sent a note to its representatives abroad stating that the naval demonstration is contrary to the rights of the Sultan and that the Great Powers will be held responsible for any Muhammadan agitation that it may cause and for the results that may follow.

23rd.—Admiral Seymour is at Cettinje concerting plans with the Montenegrin Government to occupy Dulcigno.

Berlin September 20th.—The Emperor of Germany is slightly indisposed

23rd—The German press approve of M Bartholemy St Hilare as the French Foreign Minister

Cape Town. September 20th—Twelve hundred Basutos have again attacked the Cape Rifles killing one officer and two men. The Basutos sustained heavy loss.

New York September 23rd—The American exploring party in the Arctic regions have discovered the remains of Sir John Franklin's expedition The party sledged for eleven months following the route of the crews of *Erebus* and the *Terror*

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, Bow-Bazar Street.)

Practical Class in Chemistry under Babu Tara Prasanna Roy, F. C. S., F. I. C., this afternoon at 5 P.M.

Lecture by the Very Rev. Father Lafont, S. J., C. I. E. this Evening, at 7½ P.M.

Subject: Polarising Microscope.

Lecture by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on Tuesday, the 28th Inst., at 7½ P.M.

Subject: Volta-electric and Magneto-electric Induction, Arago's Retations.

Lecture by Babu Tara Prasanna Roy, F. C. S., F. I. C. on Wednesday, the 29th Inst., at 5 P. M.

Subject: The allotropic modifications of Carbon.

Lecture by the Father A. de Penecranda, S. J., on Thursday, the 30th Inst., 7½ P. M.

Subject: Further particulars concerning Jupiter.

Lecture by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on Friday, October 1, at 7½ P. M.

Subject: Change of State produced in bodies by Heat.

Lecture by Babu Tara Prasanna Roy, F.C.S., F. I. C, on Saturday, October 2, at 3 P. M.

Subject: Compounds of Carbon with Oxygen.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1880.

THE REPORT OF THE RENT-LAW COMMISSION.

X.

WE gave last week extracts from Mr. C. W. B. Rouse's book on landed property in Bengal to shew the antiquity and heredity of Zemindari property in Bengal. It is true that at the latter end of Mahomedan rule the custom of confirming succession to Zemindaries in the shape of sanad by the ruling power came into vogue, but that did not take away the individual rights of the Zemindars. Mr. Rouse remarks:

"It seems to me to result indisputably from the deductions of history contained in the foregoing pages, that zemindars, as persons possessing land either in their own right, or by successive renovation of grant, are of a considerable, perhaps of high antiquity, but that the present Sunnud, upon which only their title to this land has generrlly been supposed to rest, is of comparatively modern institution. So that whether the Sunnud now in use commenced under the reign of Akber, or that of Aurungzebe; I trust I shall not be thought presumptuous in contending that the zemindary property existed independent of the Sunnud, and was not at least not within any ascertainable period, created by it. However, although it did not create, the Sunnud may have confirmed the property. Judicial functions may have been superadded by it. After a recent conquest, it might be prudent for the conqueror, and safe for the proprietor to receive a charter of confirmation. Or the lands of persons who had been engaged in rebellion, having been sequestered and seized by the rightful, or what is in effect the same thing, the successful party; which is the practice of all nations under every description, with more or less of ceremonial process: they might be added to the districts of some faithful adherent, and a charter would then become necessary to establish the new proprietor upon the exclusion of the former. Or it might be expedient in the case of acquisition by purchase, to confirm in like manner the possession of the purchaser.

In stating these cases hypothetically, I conceive, that I really describe by analogy, the occurrences of our own country, at those unhappy periods of our history, when the contentions of the royal houses produced continual revolutions in the kingdom; and of all other nations under similar circumstances. Large tracts of land in England and Wales were so conveyed by charter from the successful competitor: and the titles of the present owners are deduced from them. The description will equally apply, with a change of terms only, to explain the origin, enlargement and consolidation of several of the great zemindaries of Bengal."

Again:

"Even the bold Barons of England, when they presented their claims to king John, which ended in the grant of *magna charta*; did not demand the privilege of disposing of their property to any persons whatever, without restraint or exception; but only "in favor of their relations, and their "daughters, sisters, and neices, to any body but who was the king's enemy." I do not see that any greater power is reserved by the Indian system, in the renovation of the zemindary grants."

"Even rebellion itself, which in our own country was constantly interpreted after the Norman conquest, to put an end to inheritance, was not applied with the same rigor, under the Mogul emperors. For when the old zemindar was dispossessed, or even put to death for crimes against the state; or his zemindary escheated for want of heirs; the land was not taken by government, and given to tenants *in capite*, as they were called in England under the maxim introduced by king John. "that he held the land in right of his crown, as it was originally derived from thence and consequently that the tenants of the former lord, instead of *intermediate* became *immediate* tenants of the crown." But the land, with its former divisions and I believe the same rent was granted to a new Zemindar with exactly the same tenure and jurisdiction as the preceding incumbent. The inferior proprietors and tenants of the zemindary passed over to the new Zemindar without any alterations; unlike those of an escheated English lordship who were thrown into much worse state by being considered as tenants *in capit*.

The paper above mentioned (No. IV.) will prove the truth of these observations. As to rebellion and crimes against the state see in the district of Burdwan:—the prince Azimul Shan who had been deputed by his grandfather Aurungzebe to suppress the rebellion headed by Kishen Ram the Zemindar of Burdwan actually restored his son Juggat Ram to the zemindary after the father had been killed in the troubles. So little was the family disgraced or incapacitated that other districts were added to its jurisdiction and Rajah Teeje Chund the present Zemindar of Burdwan and first in Bengal is the descendant of that Juggat Ram. There are other instances which I need not particularize.

Then, as to the punishment of death, and the practice of purchase, look to the district of Nuddeah; where the Zemindar Ramchund was put to death for revolting against the government; but his younger brother Ram Jewan was admitted to the zemindary, His eldest son the successor Ragooram greatly enlarged his possession by purchases which he made between the Bengal years 1127 and 1134. or A. D. 1720 and 1727, And after holding his zemindary for nine years, was succeeded by his son Kishenchund; who added more purchases enjoyed the zemindary for the long period of fifty three years, and then resigned it to his son.

In Dinagepore, we see a regular descent first to a daughter's son; next to his son; then to three sons successively; neither of whom leaving any issue the youngest adopted a relation, who continued for forty years, and died in 1725-6. This line also failed; and the last of the family adopted a son, who is the present Zemindar."

"It can never be maintained, either from the histories or traditions of Bengal, or from the anecdotes of the several families who now possess the lands, that the zemindars have been ever displaced at the whim of the reigning prince, or his ministers, as is practised all the world over with regard to official nominations; nor that they needed confirmation at every succession of an emperor, or appointment of his provincial viceroy: nor that they have been liable to deprivation, except for crimes real or alleged, failure of revenue, rebellion, public robberies, or such acts of of atrocity, as would even in free countries subject a person to attainder and outlawry. Since the British government has taken place, now twenty-five years, I believe no Zemindar has lost his inheritance, but for failure of revenue: or upon judicial process for private debt. With regard to preceding periods, I speak only as to the general practice. For in forming a government for our possessions, in India, we must not take as our precedents, the solitary examples of tyrants and usurpers: but where we find no written law should endeavor to make that *law* hereafter, which has been known as *usaye* under the best of the native princes.

If we were to scrutinize the title of many capital estates in Great Britain; we should find they were originally granted for the performance of certain acts or offices; some of which have become ludicrous, others dropt into disuse and are forgotton. Would any one imagine upon reading without any of the concomitant circumstances of history a grant merely of the court of wards and liveries which although now indeed abolished subsisted in England till after the restoration of Charles the second; but that during that period landed property flowed from the indulgence of the crown? In like manner the English copy-hold is even now said in his admission at the lord's court to hold his land *ad voluntatem domini*. Originally it was really so. But the possession is now as secure as that of the lord himself."

Mr. Rouse then quotes Mr. Holwell:

"Look also at the sentiments of Mr. Holwell, who passed thirty years in Bengal, during the several governments of Jaffer Khan, Shujah Khan, Serafraz Khan, Aliverdy Khan, Seraje-ul-Dowlah, and Mir Jaffer: including altogether, a period for about ten years antecedent to the invasion of Nadir Shah, which produced the defection of Bengal and other provinces; to the establishment of the British influence consequent on the victories of Lord Clive. Major Adams, Sir Hector Munro and General Carnac. In recounting any of the Revolutions which had happened in the empire during that tumultuous series he never hints, by any mode of expression, that the zemindars are the servants of government, but calls them "the great proprietors of the land" and constantly speaks of them, as holding by an hereditary succession."

One more extract and we have done:

I shall only add one further consideration, to establish the actual existence of landed property under the ancient government of Bengal. But it strikes me to be one of that transcendent force, that if due regard be had to the parties, circumstances, and time; it must even alone, and unsupported by any other argument, carry complete conviction. It is the conjunct testimony of the Mogul emperor himself, and the East-India Company:—the one, before any visible declension had taken place of the imperial authority; the other, humbly supplicating protection and security for its commerce, upon any terms the sovereign might think proper to impose.

About the year 1696, during the reign of Aurungzebe, several of the hereditary landholders, headed by the Rajah of Burdwan, declared themselves independent of the Mogul's government of Bengal; and the European nations took advantage of this state of confusion to fortify their several settlements, the English in the year 1698, obtained from Sultan Azim ul Shan, grandson of the emperor, who was deputed to suppress the rebellion, permission to purchase from the hereditary landholders, the zemindary rights of three villages round Calcutta to the extent of about one mile and a half square. But they had afterwards the misfortune to incur the displeasure of Jaffer Khan, the Subahdar of Bengal; so that, being exposed to frequent interruptions in their business from the officers of the Mogul government, and sensible of the precarious tenure of their establishments; they determined on sending a deputation to the Court of Delhi in the year 1715, to represent their grievances to Furruksere, who then sat upon the throne of Hindoostan.

Much time was spent by the deputies in solicitation and intrigue. They petitioned, amongst other articles, for a confirmation of the three villages formerly bought by the Company, and for a grant of the Talookdary of thirty eight other villages which lay contiguous to their factory in Bengal, subject to a fixed revenue of rupees 81,816 or about 1000*l*. per annum, which paid a revenue of about 160*l*. per annum. The imperial court at length became favorable to the representations of the deputies. But what course did it take? Did the emperor assign over a body of his subjects to the English Company, as a drove of cattle, that belonged to him, and lay at his mercy? Did he give them the villages they solicited, as a paltry scrap of his own immense landed property in the manner we should give any neighbour a yard or two of land, to build his wall upon?—By no means. With the dignity of a just monarch, he granted them, unconditionally, a confirmation of three villages they had actually bought; and conferred upon them the Talookdary of the thirty-eight villages, with an express reservation in his firman or charter, dated in 1717, of the rights of the proprietors; from whom the Company was positively required to purchase them before the investiture should be admitted by the provincial government.

The sense then entertained of the grant is clearly fixed by the bold translation made at the time, and probably by Cojah Serliad himself, one of the deputies, which expresses it thus; the thirty [eight] towns I give you the Zemindary of likewise, but you must buy them and satisfy the owner; the Duan Subah will not impede you." It shows likewise, from the substitution of the word *Zemindary* for *Talookdary*; which is in the original, that they were then considered as equivalent.

This requisition is enforced in the order to the imperial officers of Bengal issued by the prime minister Syed Abdullah Khan, which announces the grant of the lands to the Company—"If, according to former customs they buy them by the assent of the respective owners of them, then you are to give permission." It is again repeated in other terms, at the head of the schedule, which enumerates "the towns (or villages) to be taken from their several Pergunnahs, and united into one Pergunnah." The condition, nevertheless, was not performed. The fact is, that the Subahdar Jaffer Khan deterred the holders of the land with secret threats of vengeance from parting with their ground on any terms: and a Perwannah issued by Sefraz Khan, then Dewan of Bengal. In the 9th of Mahomed Shah (about 1729) which refers to the charter of Furruksere, says, the three towns formerly granted them, and bought by consent from the zemindars of them, are now in their possession—and "the other thirty-eight towns, they have not yet bought; neither are in their possession."

Here we have the united testimony of the Mogul Government and the East India Company to the proprietory title of the Zemindar. We will conclude this part of the subject with the following pertinent remarks of Mr. Rouse:

In drawing a parallel out of Germany for the execrable doctrines of despotism, I discover with the greater satisfaction a parallel in the same empire for the rise of hereditary possessions and honors. If it be contended, that the zemindars have no right of property in the land, nor hereditary claims of any sort, on the idea that they were originally nothing more than superintendents of districts, or collectors of the revenue, without any condition of permanency in their nomination; which in the course of centuries has probably been the case of many: it might possibly be deemed a sufficient answer to that suggestion, to shew, that most of the principalities of the German empire had a similar commencement; that the dukes, margraves, and counts were at first mere governors of cantons employed during the king's pleasure and dependent on the crown; but being continued from father to son, it became difficult to establish a contrary system. Thus originated the hereditary right now enjoyed by the counts; and the present Palatine, Saxon, and Brandenburg Houses trace their descent from the ancient Counts of Wittelsbach, Wettin, and Zollern."

As to the position of tenants under the old Zemindari system Mr. Rouse remarks:

"As to the mode, privileges, or conditions of the real tenants not taking the term according to the use of it in the English law of tenures, which supposes all property to be *holden* of some superior or lord: but in the more limited and ordinary acceptation of renters, farmers and cultivators; my inquiries have led me to think they are various according to the settled usage of any district or village or according to [illegible] either for a term of years or upon [illegible] for a [illegible] and to short [illegible] [illegible] which it would be [illegible] [illegible] any continuance into a right as in the [illegible] positively say. It is not general [illegible]. Prudence may dictate the custom of not changing the tenants, but would not I think prescribe the law."

It will be seen from the above that the zemindar was the absolute master of the land and that he could do with it what he might think fit. More hereafter.

Mr. Rouse, whom we have quoted at length, says in the dedication of his book to Mr. Henry Dundas: "When His Majesty's Board of Commissioners for the Affairs of India first entered upon the duties committed to them by the Act passed in 1784, it is certain, that no subject received a more earnest attention than the condition and tenure of the landholders throughout our territorial possessions: and, as I have the honor of attending all the deliberations and researches, previous to the system they have since established for the administration of the revenue; I cannot present this review of the subject so properly to any one as to you, who have always taken a very active part in the proceedings of the Board; and to whom the country looks with confidence for a zealous and vigilant attention to every object, that may affect the prosperity of its Asiatic interests." Mr. Rouse thus wrote from personal knowledge and not from hearsay.

CANAL IRRIGATION IN UPPER INDIA.

THE financial results of canals in India have often been minutely discussed; but their effects on the productive powers of the land and the health of the people have not, generally speaking, received that amount of careful and attentive consideration which the importance of the subject demands. Enthusiastic champions of canals have claimed for them the title of the "infallible panacea" against famine and drought. It was these men who induced Lord Mayo to determine upon borrowing ninety millions sterling in order to carry out a gigantic system of irrigation for the whole of British India, and, with a view to secure the Government from loss, imposing a compulsory cess on all irrigable land whether it was irrigated or not. Had General Strachey's Northern India Canal and Drainage Act of 1861 not been vetoed by the Duke of Argyll, the then Secretary of State for India, we shudder to think what the consequences of the carrying out of Lord Mayo's scheme would have been. The evil effects of canal irrigation in Upper India were clearly pointed out by the late Colonel Corbett in his work entitled "the climate and resources of Upper India," published some three years ago. The Colonel was not only a close observer, but was a practical experimentalist, and he never made an assertion which could not be proved by facts. But unfortunately the Colonel was not a good writer; and it was for this reason that his book on the agricultural condition of the Upper Provinces, though full of important and serious truths, has not attracted the amount of attention which it deserved. We are, therefore, glad that a writer in the June number of the London *Statesman* has brought to the notice of the British public the dangers attending canal irrigation in Upper India and the appalling mischief it has already wrought.

Colonel Corbett does not find language strong enough to condemn canal irrigation. "What," he asks, "has irrigation done for the country?" And he thus answers the question:—"It has signally failed to do all that was foretold of it. Famines have been more frequent and more severe since canals were made. Droughts are greater than they previously were. The air of the whole country is more arid and injurious to animal and vegetable life than it formerly was, from the cutting down of forest trees, &c., for burning bricks and lime for the Canals and to clear the land for irrigation. A great amount of land has become covered with *Reh*, and is by many persons considered to be permanently sterilised. There is very good reason to fear there is not a single acre of land that has been irrigated by canals for ten years whose product has not very considerably diminished. The prices of food grains and all agricultural produce are notoriously higher than they were. . . Add to these the fevers and consequent prostration of the inhabitants of the districts longest irrigated by canals, whilst we are told the population is decreasing, the men having become emasculated, &c., from the effects of fevers and other diseases caused by irrigation. In the face of these facts there are people who still talk of the so-called *blessings* of irrigation. Are these blessings, or are they curses? . . . Irrigation merely acts as a stimulant for a short time, and eventually reduces the productive power of land . . . The increase of indigo cultivation in the Upper Doab, and its successful prosecution there, is advanced as an argument in favour of canal irrigation. Here is an extract of a letter from an indigo planter on the subject:—'The produce in canal-irrigated lands, in my opinion, will be worse yearly; what with sowing the same seed, and with the constant cropping and flooding the lands are being thoroughly exhausted. I remark yearly a great falling off of leaf, and this, by-the-bye, appears to be increasing. Canal plant grows too quickly; it is, in fact, forced, and it consequently cannot draw sufficient support from the soil fast enough to keep pace with its rapid growth. If I am right in my conjecture, produce will get worse as the soil becomes more exhausted." In these few sentences Colonel Corbett has well summed up the evil effects of irrigating ordinary "soil with canal water." There can be no doubt whatever that the cultivating classes are at one with Colonel Corbett on this point. The position taken up by the Colonel that canal irrigation reduces the productive powers of the land, has been conceded by Mr. E. C. Buck, the Director of Agriculture and Commerce, N. W. P. and Oudh. "When the Canal first came into our village we thought our fortunes were made. For two or three years the village was a garden; but year after year we have seen the crops grow shorter and the ears become lighter until now our outturn is far less than when we had no canal at all." This is what many a Native cultivator or landlord has told Mr. Buck, and he fully accepts this view. But he would not be an agricultural reformer if he did not maintain that the ryot has only himself to thank for the incalculable mischief which canal irrigation has wrought. "Canals and irrigation are" says, Colonel Corbett, "doing more than any thing else to destroy the agricultural prosperity of the country, and to reduce land formerly fruitful to a state of sterility." Some may think this to be strong language, but it is fully justified by the circumstances of the case.

The most important portion of Colonel Corbett's book is that which deals with *Reh*, which, in the language of the writer in the London *Statesman*, "follows in the wake of our canals" like black care behind the horseman. There has been during the last few years an appalling extension of *Reh*, in the canal irrigated districts of the N. W. P. Experience has shown canal water creates *Reh* and that in order to propagate this disease it is only necessary to irrigate good land with such water for four or five years. As has been said above, the opening of a canal is always followed by a period of brief prosperity and that for a time every thing goes on well merrily, for irrigation does not blight the fertility of land all at once." But it must not be forgotten that by the extension of canal irrigation we obtain a temporary and precarious advantage, at the cost of permanently sterilising the soil. Lands which were singularly rich a few years before are now lying barren and depopulated, because they have, in consequence of canal irrigation, become covered with *Reh*. The condition of the lands along the Eastern Jumna Canal was officially described in 1868 in these words: "In many villages lying along the Eastern Jumna Canal, * * * fields after field of the best lands near the village site has had to be abandoned; for miles of country on the left bank of the Jumna Canal, the surface of the soil is as white as snow; all the impurities of the soil have been driven to the surface. The country in and around shambi is known as "Rehala;" and when this *Reh*, or impure soda, once makes its appearance, not even grass will grow." This, be it remembered, is taken from a sober official document. *Reh* is, indeed, spreading far and wide in the Canal-irrigated districts of the North Western Provinces, and reducing large tracts which were formerly rich and productive to the condition of desolate salt wastes. The Government of the North-Western Provinces has for some time past been engaged in making an investigation into this state of things. About two years ago a Committee was appointed to visit the worse *Reh* district, Aligarh, for the purpose of ascertaining facts and suggesting remedial measures. The result of the enquiries made by the Committee has not yet been made public. But Mr. Medlicott, Superintendent of the Geological Survey, who was a member of the Committee, is of opinion that "all the circumstances of the *Reh* —its composition and mode of occurrence—show it to be the result of the slow accumulation of the soda-salts rejected by vegetation, for the removal of which, by the natural process of through drainage, the rainfall has been insufficient, or its escape obstructed, or evaporation too powerful." Upon this, the writer in the London *Statesman* pertinently remarks:—"If this be a true explanation of the origin of *Reh*, the agricultural prospect in India is black indeed. The denudation of forest lands has resulted in an increase of the heat, and a diminution of the rainfall. The increase of the heat has resulted in so hardening the soil, that without the aid of rains, the cultivator cannot break it up for the purpose of sowing. The increasing uncertainty of the rainfall has led to the construction of canals at a vast expense. Canal irrigation has resulted in still further hardening and impoverishing the soil, and in setting free an agency which has only to come into contact with vegetation in order to destroy it utterly. But are there no remedies? None, that we can see, which will be of any use. If the canals be closed, and the rain be withheld, the people will perish of hunger. If the canals be kept open, the plague of sterility will be increased, and famine must be the result. Could deep ploughing be introduced into the country, the cultivator would find immediate relief. But to say this is to advise a man to stay his hunger with buns when he is unable to purchase bread. The Indian cultivator has neither the capital nor

the cattle either to provide himself with an English plough, or to use it if it were provided for him." We think that the only practicable remedy for the lamentable state of things described above is to promote the construction of wells for purposes of irrigation. The great question of wells *versus* canals has not, in our opinion, been as yet fully discussed.

The effects of canal irrigation on the health of the people yet remain to be noticed. It is well known that the canal-irrigated tracts in Upper India have been smitten with malarious fever, which claims its multitudes of victims every year after the rains. So far back as 1856 Mr. J. W. Sherer, late of the North West Civil Service, who was deputed to report upon the condition of the people in the Delhi territory, wrote :—"The spectacle of sick women and diseased children crouching among the ruins of their houses, of haggard cultivators wading in the swamps, or watching their sickly crops, or attempting to pasture their bony cattle on the unwholesome grass, is present to my mind constantly." In 1868 an official report thus described the state of things as regards the health of the people in the villages lying along the Eastern Jumna Canal. "The climate has changed very much for the worse; the very worst kinds of fevers prevail in the neighbourhood of canals. In many villages * * * * * population is either at a standstill, or is retrograding; trees and groves are becoming leafless, and the wells are choked with filthy stagnant water to the brim." Places in Upper India which had been a few years before looked upon as sanitaria, have now become the seat of the very worst kinds of fevers, and persons suffering from enlargement of the spleen are now as common in the canal-irrigated districts of the North-Western Provinces and the Panjab as they are in Lower Bengal. In the face of the facts mentioned above, well might Colonel Corbett say that canal irrigation in Upper India has been a curse and not a blessing. Our rulers cannot, therefore, be too cautious in proceeding with the construction of canals.

EURASIAN EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT.

SINCE we last wrote on this subject two important papers bearing on it have seen the light; and these deserve more than a passing notice. The first paper is a new report by Archdeacon Baly, which discusses at some length the recommendations made in his preliminary report, which was noticed in these columns at the time it was published. The statistics collected by the Archdeacon show that in the Presidency of Bengal one-half of European and Eurasian children of school-going years are under instruction; and that the other half are out of school. In order to meet the educational requirements of the children now out of school, Archdeacon Baly recommends the enlargement of the existing Free Schools at Allahabad and Lahore, for about 309 and 200 children respectively. The net monthly cost of these two schools is estimated at over Rs. 3,000, and the school buildings will involve an expenditure of nearly three lakhs. Then, the Archdeacon would establish aided schools at four stations in the Lower Provinces, at six stations in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and at two stations in the Punjab He would also have a Training College at Naini Tal at a monthly cost of Rs. 2,400, besides Rs. 75,000 for buildings. All this is for general education only. Then, provision must be made for the industrial education of European and Eurasian youths. We do not know what will be the total cost of carrying out the recommendations contained in Archdeacon Baly's report; but there can be no doubt that it will come to a very considerable sum.

The other paper to which we have alluded above is the report of the Senate of the Punjab University College on the "poor white" and Eurasian question. This report deals with the whole subject in a spirit of thorough fairness and impartiality. We have from the beginning held that the State is already doing for the education of Europeans and Eurasian much more than it should do, having regard to the interests of the other classes of the community. As regards the provision of special schools for the "poor whites" and Eurasians, the Senate of the Punjab University College are of opinion "that the existing facilities offered by Government and aided schools are all that the State can justly be called upon to provide." We think the Senate should have gone further and quoted the following remarkable passage from Sir Henry Davies' Resolution on the Education Report of the Punjab for 1873-74 :—"The number of school-going Eurasian children in the Punjab may be roughly estimated at 5,000. To meet the educational requirements of this small number, there are in the Punjab one Government and 11 aided institutions with attendance of nearly a thousand children and room for a greater number; and the amount contributed by Government towards their education in grant-in-aid alone amounted in 1873-74 to Rs. 41,930 besides building grants and the yearly entire cost of the Sanawar Military Asylum. In other words, one of every five of the poorer European and Eurasian population is being educated in whole or in part at Government expense; and, without including the Sanawar Asylum, one-twentieth of the provincial expenditure on education is expended on schools for the special benefit of a class representing about one-four-thousandth part of the population. But this is not all; for those unable to make use of special institutions an English education is available at an insignificant cost in the upper classes of all Government and Mission schools. That members of the Eurasian community do not avail themselves of the educational institutions open to them is unfortunately true; but it can, hardly with justice, be contended that their educational requirements are neglected by the State." We should very much like to know what Archdeacon Baly has to say in answer to Sir Henry Davies' remarks just quoted. It will be recollected that the position we took up in discussing the "poor white" and Eurasian children question a few months ago was, that no special schools are required for Europeans and Eurasians and that these should attend the existing Government and aided institutions. The Senate of the Panjab University College are also at one with us on this important point. They say :—"The Senate apprehend no danger to the morality of European and Eurasian boys by association during school, and even play-hours with native boys. These boys belong to the respectable classes of the native community, the lowest castes from which the servants of the poorer Eurasians are generally recruited being practically excluded from Government schools, owing to the strong native feeling on the subject. As regards good manners and habits of industry, the native boys of India compare favourably with those of any other country. Indeed, those Europeans andEurasians who have attended Government schools in this province have not only distinguished themselves in after-life, but may also be quoted as instances of good manners and conduct." Archdeacon Baly and those who with him shudder at the very idea of associating Eurasian with Native boys in public schools should ponder over the remarks of the Senate of the Punjab University College. The unwillingness of the Eurasian to send his boys to ordinary Government or aided schools for education, proceeds from a false race-pride. Should the State, we ask, foster this foolish feeling by providing schools for his children, out of the general revenues of the Empire, the bulk of which is derived from Hindus and Mahomedan? The Senate of the Punjab University College, lay down the following broad principle: "Europeans and Eurasians should be encouraged to avail themselves of existing institutions for special and higher education such as Government colleges and the schools for Law, Medicine and Engineering. The Senate condemn the principle of establishing special schools or colleges, supported wholly or chiefly by general taxation, for the exclusive benefit of any particular community." The soundness of the views expressed by the Senate of the Punjab University College will be acknowledged by every unprejudiced and right-thinking person. "As regards industrial and trade schools," the Senate pertinently point out, "it is obvious that a European or Eurasian specially trained in one of these institutions could not compete, say as a carpenter, with an equally competent native so as to earn a livelihood corresponding to his more expensive habits."

So much for the education of Europeans and Eurasians. We come now to their employment under Government. Archdeacon Baly tells us that the number of European and Eurasian lads in the Bengal Presidency annually fitted for entering upon their life-career is in round numbers 300. The question is, how can this number be annually provided for? The Archdeacon would throw open to the Eurasian youth employment in the Government and Railway workshops and factories. He also recommends that they should be employed as buglers in native, or band-boys in European, regiments, and that such of them as are qualified by education should be admitted to a fair proportion of all subordinate employments in the various departments of the public service. As to employment in public offices, the Archdeacon writes: "As a general rule, clerkships in the civil offices of Government are now obtained through personal interest. Young men are admitted into the office as probationers, and afterwards appointed to the first vacancies. I would suggest, for the consideration of Government, *whether the number of clerkships now filled by European youth* might not be thrown open to competition on the same system as is adopted for the corresponding branches of the Civil Service in England, with advantage both to the public service and to the young men themselves. The latter would be stimulated to rely more on their own efforts and less on the influence of their friends, while these would be induced to be more careful of the education of their children as a necessary condition of their future success." Now, we perfectly agree with Archdeacon Baly as to the desirability of throwing appointments in public offices open to competition. The great merit of the system of competitive examinations is that it prevents jobbery and encourages education. But we do not see how the recommendation made by the Archdeacon can be practically carried out. He would throw open to competition *only the number of clerkships now filled by European youth*, and he would, of course, exclude Natives from the competition. Is this plan, we ask, fair and reasonable? In the first place, the number of clerkship to be filled by European and Eurasian youth in public offices has not been, and cannot be, definitely fixed. Government has not laid down any general principle on which appointments in its civil offices are to be reserved for Europeans and Eurasians. Before Archdeacon Baly's proposal can be carried out, it will be necessary for Government to determine what proportion of the clerkships in public offices ought to be filled by Europeans and what proportion by Natives. The number of clerkships now filled by European youths may be either disproportionately large or disproportionately small. Is the Government prepared to lay down a definite rule on the subject? If it should be ill-advised enough to undertake the task, on what principle will it proceed? The truth is that if the competitive system be adopted, it must be applied to Europeans and Natives with perfect equality and to all appointments in the public offices. We are strongly of opinion that the adoption of this system will give much relief to the heads of offices and would at the same time prove beneficial to the public interests. But in applying it there should be no invidious distinction made between Europeans and Natives. The interests of the public demand that the best men available should be appointed to vacant offices. Let *all* appointments in public offices be thrown open to competition; and the change would be a decided improvement; on the existing nomination system. But it will not do to reserve a number of clerkships for Europeans and then fill these by competition among them. Such a system would be grossly partial and therefore, scandalous. We strongly object to the grant of unfair class privileges. The motto of the Government should be—fair field and no favour. As a matter of fact, the Eurasian has the lion's share of the higher appointments in the public offices; and we must not forget what the *Pioneer* pointed out some time ago, that a

really educated and trustworthy member of the Eurasian community does not find any difficulty whatever in obtaining employment suited to his capacity and aspirations. The case is, however widely different with the pure-blood Native.

THE WATER SUPPLY LAW.

A VERY important decision has been passed by the Madras High Court on a suit instituted by two public spirited rate-payers of Madras against the local Municipality for levying the water tax without supplying water. They claimed damages and also applied for an injunction "to restrain the Municipality from collecting from them any water-tax, no water being supplied to them.' The cases were heard by Mr. Justice Kernan, and ably argued on both sides. It was contended on behalf of the Municipality that they had not the means to give full supply. Then ensued the following interpellations between the Bench and the Bar :

Mr. Justice Kernan remarked that the failure of the Commissioners to perform the duty was not dependent on the question whether they had the money or not, The Court could not compel the Municipality to perform an impossibility, but it had the power under Section 433 to make any other order which it might think fit. The plaintiff had a cause of action under the statute as the statute distinctly directs a duty to be done. If his Lordship should be called upon to grant an injunction, he asked in what form should it be. He thought that the defendants should be restrained from collecting the tax until further orders.

Mr. Johnstone said that the defendants should be restrained until they are able to erect a stand pipe within 150 yards of the plaintiff's house.

Mr. Justice Kernan thought it would be well to restrain the defendants "until further orders."

Mr. Justice Kernan looked at the conduct of the Municipality in the following light :—They admitted that they were insolvent and that they were in a state of impecuniosity, yet they compelled house-owners to pay their taxes for water which they did not get.

Mr. Branson said that this was very like obtaining money under false pretences. There was an Act which distinctly laid down that the Municipalty should perform a duty to house-owners paying the water-tax, and they were unable to perform that duty. The performance of an impossibility could not be compelled, but the plaintiff had a right to seek relief under section 433 of Act V. of 1878, and to ask the court to restrain the Municipal Commissioners from collecting any tax from the plaintiff until they are able to supply him with water as required by the Act. The learned counsel contended that his client was entitled to recover damages and to an injunction restraining the defendants from collecting any further tax from him until they are able to supply him water.

Mr. O'Sullivan replied that under existing circumstances the Municipality were not able to supply the water, but they might soon be able to do so. The learned Counsel then went on to say that the only other point of importance in the plaint was the prayer for an injunction. When all the circumstances of the case were considered Mr. O'Sullivan maintained that the plaintiffs were not entitled to maintain their suits. As to the injunction prayed for to restrain a public body from exercising a power granted by a statute, no authority had been cited to shew that the Court could grant any such injunction, nor, as far as he knew, did he think that any authority could be cited. The statute authorizes the imposition of the tax and therefore a person was ordered to pay it.

Mr. Justice Kernan remarked that there were fixed principles laid down to guide one in granting an injunction, and the cases before the Court were illustrations of such principles. The Municipality had the power under the statute to impose a tax, and the tax-payer had a right to expect from the Municipality the performance of a certain duty. If this duty is not fulfilled the tax-payer has a right to sue for damages and to compel the performance by the Municipality of their duty under the statute, but the Municipality admit that they are unable to perform their duty, and these circumstances being once established it is incumbent on a Court of Equity to step in and to give the plaintiffs relief. Another principle on which an injunction in such cases as those before the Court ought to be allowed is that it will prevent a multiplicity of suits most detrimental to the interests of the public and the Municipality.

Mr. O'Sullivan said that the statute gave the Municipality the power to levy the tax.

Mr. Justice Kernan remarked that no such statute would have been allowed to pass in the House of Commons.

Mr. O'Sullivan contended that the mere failure on the part of the Municipality owing to circumstances over which they had no control, to fulfil their duty did not justify the Court stepping in to assume an equitable jurisdiction and over-ride what the Legislature directed.

Mr. Justice Kernan.—An attempt on the part of the Court to compel the performance of what the Municipality ought to do.

Mr. O'Sullivan again contended that no authority had been cited to shew that the Court had the power to grant an injunction.

Mr. Justice Kernan observed that though no authority was shewn, yet the Court could not but look upon the imposition of the tax as inequitable. The Municipality admit that owing to a state of impecuniosity they could not fulfil their duty and yet they demanded the tax. The payment of the tax and the duty of the Municipality were contained in one section.

Mr. O'Sullivan said that in one sense the acquisition of the tax might be considered inequitable, but it was not sufficiently inequitable to authorize the Court to say that the Municipality shall not do what the law gave them the power to do.

Mr. Justice Kernan replied that he could not separate the imposition of the tax from the duty.

Mr. Justice Kernan then delivered the following judgment :

Judgment.—His Lordship, in delivering judgment, said that when he decided the last case involving similar questions he had expressed himself so strongly that it should not at all be surprising to those who now heard him that he still held the same view in regard to the question at present to be decided by him. His views had not been shaken by the opinions expressed by the judges of the Appellate Court, and what he had heard in the arguments in the present cases had not in any way made him alter his views. His Lordship, in very strong terms, alluded to the inequitableness of the Municipality demanding a tax when they knew that they were insolvent and in an impecunious state. It was shewn that it was utterly impossible for the Municipality to complete the water supply scheme, that it would require about 32 lakhs of rupees to carry out the project, and that the Municipality would never be able to pay the interest on this amount even if borrowed. How long, His Lordship asked, might not this state of things go on? The same thing might be carried on for the next twelve years.' A pretty good number of people derived benefits from the water supply, but a large section of the population got no water at all. When such a state of things was established, a Court of Equity had no discretion but to interfere. Added to the inequitableness of the system under which the tax was imposed which justified the grant of an injunction, His Lordship pointed out that a further ground for the issue of an injunction was that it would prevent a multiplicity of suits. His Lordship quoted "Carr on Injunctions" to shew that one good result of the issue of an injunction was that it puts a bound to vexatious litigation and prevent a multiplicity of suits. If, in the present case, the plaintiffs were declared to be entitled to damages, and the Municipality were to pursue their virtuous course of demanding the tax from all house owners in the way they had hitherto done, what would be the result? The cases in the Court were, His Lordship was certain, the straws to find out which way the wind blew, and there was no doubt that a number of suits would be commenced, and the plaintiffs also, on being again called upon to pay the tax, would institute suits, But the grant of an injunction, restraining the defendants fram levying the tax from the plaintiffs would prevent the institution of further suits by the plaintiffs. It would thus prevent a multiplicity of suits which if allowed to go on would require the employment, perhaps of one or two more judges. In His Lordship's opinion, to refuse an injunction in these cases was to encourage vexatious and oppressive litigation. His Lordship said "oppressive litigation" as he felt that every suit opposed by the Municipality was paid out of the public purse. Every tax-payer had an interest in seeing that the Municipality did not involve itself in litigation for every bill of costs incurred on account of a suit in which the Municipality were concerned was paid out of the public purse. Alluding to the present cases, what His Lordship asked, was likely to be the result in a pecuniary point of view? The damages claimed in one case were Rs. 50 and in other Rs. 70 making a total sum of Rs. 120 For opposing these suits, the Municipality, would, perhaps, have to pay the costs on the other side of Rs. 400 and their own costs of Rs, 400 making a total sum of Rs. 800. If other suits were instituted similar large sums would have to be expended. The Municipality were already in an insolvent state, so if they went on in this way they would soon have to shut up altogether. His Lordship felt surprised to find that the Municipality, acting on the advice of some persons, should go on in this way and not see that it was so detrimental to their own and the interests of the public to be involved in litigation. After making a few more strong observations on the conduct of the Municipality in reference to these suits. His Lordship declared that the plaintiffs were entitled to recover the damages claimed by them, that they were entitled to have a stand pipe within one hundred and fifty yards of their houses, but that, owing to the insolvent and impecunious state of the Municipality, the latter could not be compelled to erect the same, that the plaintiffs were entitled to an injunction restraining the Municipality from collecting the tax from them "till further orders." His Lordship explained that he made the injunction "till further orders" as he did not wish to interfere with the Legislature. His Lordship also declared that the plaintiffs were entitled to costs.

Decree accordingly for the plaintiffs with costs.

We have given the report of the two cases *in extenso* for the edification of the Calcutta Municipality. There are in this city 31 miles of roads and lanes which are not supplied with pipes, and yet the rate-payers residing therein are made to pay all the same! Is there not one among them with sufficient public spirit to try conclusions with the Municipal Commissioners in the High Court?

MR. FAWCETT ON INDIAN FINANCE.

WHEN Mr. Fawcett joined the Liberal Ministry there was a distinct understanding between him and Mr. Gladstone that he should exercise perfect freedom of opinion regarding Indian matters. It is said that when the Indian Budget was about to be laid before Parliament Mr. Gladstone sent a message to Mr. Fawcett to the effect that he would be at perfect liberty to give his opinion upon it irrespective of the views and policy of Government. Mr. Fawcett did exercise the right thus accorded to him. He discussed the question of the Indian finance with his usual knowledge and ability. He said, "he considered the state of things disclosed by the Secretary of State was of a very grave character. The more unreservedly they accepted the assurances of the Under-Secretary of the late Government that that Government had not a glimmer of suspicion that the estimates of the Affghan war had been exceeded until a fortnight before they went out of office, the more painfully was forced upon them the conclusion that there was something radically wrong in the present system of government in India—(Hear, hear)—and that all those elaborate checks and figures which they were taught to believe were associated with that double system of government were no security whatever for a due and efficient control over the finances. From the time the war commenced the actual expenditure exceeded the estimates by something like 180 per cent.; and yet a year and a half after the war had commenced the Indian Government had so little idea that any of its estimates were mistaken that on the 25th February last they brought forward a prosperity budget, and sanctioned the surrender of revenue." This state of things, Mr. Fawcett remarked, suggested an enquiry into the system of Government. He said, what security could we have, unless the system of government was fundamentally changed, that similar mistakes might not occur again in the future. The remark of the late Under-Secretary that it was not the Secretary of State for India that was responsible, but the Secretary of State in Council, pointed straight to one of the greatest defects in the government of India, viz., that when anything wrong occurred responsibility was so divided and frittered away that it could never be fastened upon any one. No lawyers could be got to agree as to the power of the Secretary of State. In a debate in the House of Lords in 1869 it was maintained by one peer who had been a Lord Chancellor that the Council was absolutely supreme in all questions of finance. The opposite opinion was maintained by another Lord Chancellor. It could not be right that the Act of 1858 which governed 250,000,000 of people should be so vaguely worded that no two persons could agree as to what were the functions and powers of the body—the Indian Council—to whom the House had been told was entrusted almost the supreme control of the finances. He expressed the opinion that the time had now come when, following the precedents of the past, an influential committee might be appointed to inquire into the Government of India Act, 1858. We entirely agree, but we hope that the amendment of the law will strengthen the hands of the Indian Council. As matters now stand, the Council is the sport of the Secretary of State's whim. Mr. Fawcett expressed the feelings of the Indian people, when he thus spoke of the announcement of the Secretary of State to make a solid and substantial contribution from the English exchequer for the payment of the Affghan war expenses. He said, "in his opinion no part of the noble lord's statement would be received with so much satisfaction in India and England as that part in which he declared that England should make a solid and substantial contribution towards the expenses of the Affghan war. He believed the announcement would give scarcely less satisfaction in England than in India. Whatever might be the faults of the English people they are not mean or ungenerous. They knew that this was a war undertaken for imperial purposes, and felt that it would not be fair and generous to throw the entire cost of an Imperial enterprise on the poor and heavily taxed people of India. He was particularly glad that this contribution to the expenses of the Affghan war would be proposed on the ground of justice, and not of charity." Referring to the state of the Indian finances he remarked: "Going through each Indian account they would find item after item which represented real revenue in England, and which represented really a loss in India. Thus the Post-office, which paid £3,000,000 into the Treasury in England, was a loss in India, and to call it revenue was a misnomer. The great point to be gained was to reduce the military charges. (Hear, hear.) Those charges, put at £17,000,000, were sufficiently serious if the Indian revenue was £69,000,000, but was infinitely more serious when it was only £38,000,000, and when £17,000,000 were sent out of the country for the payment of home charges. This showed the necessity of making fundamental changes in the military organisation. (Hear, hear.) At

present India had the same military organisation as our own. It was putting a man with £1000 a year into the same position with regard to house-keeping as a man with £10,000 a year. He made these remarks without party bias, believing that the interests of India were safe in the hands of the noble lord, and would profit by his sound judgment and straightforwardness; and that if he should succeed in introducing better government into India, he would not only earn the thanks of England, but would be remembered as one of the greatest benefactors of the Indian race. (Cheers.)" Yes, the enormous military expenditure of India is a scandal. There is no hope for the solvency of the Indian Exchequer, unless the army charges of India are materielly reduced. The Indian Government has done its duty by appointing the late Commission for the revision of the military charges. The responsibility now rests with the Home Government. If it does not do its duty courageously and manfully, there will be no retrenchment whatever. It was really very disheartening when Lord Hartington declared in Parliament that he had not yet read the report of the Indian Army Commissioner! This is the fate of State papers of the last importance at the India Office. We are, however, inclined to think that the appointment of Col. Chesney as Military Secretary to the Government of India is some guarantee that the Report of the Army Commission will not be lost sight of.

SIR LOUIS JACKSON, KT.

IN our article on Sir Louis Jackson's Indian career, published in our issue of the 21st June last, some eight or ten days before his departure from India, we adverted, among other things, to his connection with the Serampur Trespass case, to his purchase of the Rampur Boalia house, and to his differences with the late Mr. Justice Dwarkanath Mitra. How far we were right as regards the first, has been already made clear by the Supreme Court judgment published in our issue of the 13th instant and by the comments thereon in our last issue. The second was barely alluded to in our first article. Referring to the early development of certain traits in Mr. Jackson's character, we remarked, "for instance he was soon discovered to be a man of violent likes and dilikes, to be too partial to his own opinions, given to too much self-esteem, and by no means disposed to be crossed in his own desires or whims, *pace* the history of the purchase of the Rampore Boalia house of the Raja of Dighaputia." With reference to this passing allusion Sir Louis Jackson in his letter of contradiction to us, published in our issue of the 6th instant, writes as follows:

> An obscure allusion is made to the purchase by me of "the Rampore Bauleah house of the Rajah of Digaputia"
>
> Now, I bought no house from the Rajah of Dighaputia, either directly or indirectly, and if the allusion is meant to convey a suggestion that the Raja ever had a house for residence at that station it is misleading.
>
> The house in question was built by the late Raja at some time before 1850, at the request, and according to the design, of Mr. A. T. Swinton. When I went to the station in 1855, it was in the occupation of Mr. Gouldsbury, who vacated a couple of years later.
>
> I offered myself as tenant, and about then the Rajah sold the house to Mr. Bashford of Surdah, from whom I bought it a little later—but there was no sort of connection between the two sales. What "history" has reached you I cannot tell.

This contradiction is complete as far as it goes, but it does not go far enough, and leaves the real point at issue entirely out of sight. There would have been nothing wrong in the late Raja having a house, or in his building one for Mr. Swinton, or in his selling it, "directly or indirectly," to Mr. Jackson, or in Mr. Jackson's renting or buying it from the Raja. The impression among the people of Rajshahi was, that the Raja, a man of high rank, great wealth, and considerable influence, was obliged somehow to do what he did not like, and that because he declined to rent his house to Mr. Jackson. This was what we had heard, and this remains unexplained in Sir Louis Jackson's letter. In noticing Sir Louis Jackson's contradiction we wrote: "If the Raja of Dighaputia would be so good as to open his lips, the reader would know what *he* knows about the 'history' of that business." Raja Promothonath Rai Bahadur of Dighaputia, has now favoured us with a communication on the subject, which we give below:

Dighaputia Rajbari, 17th September 1880.

I see in the last issue of the *Hindoo Patriot* that you expect to hear from me what I know about the circumstances which made my late father part, very reluctantly, with his Rampore Bauleah house.

It is true that the house referred to was built at the request of Mr. Swinton, who occupied it for some time, and Mr. Gouldsbury, the Commissioner, rented it after Mr. Swinton gave it up.

On Mr. Gouldsbury's vacating the house, my father intended to keep it for me to attend the Bauleah school from there.

I accordingly occupied the house, and a short time after I had been there I very well remember, Mr. Jackson came into the house one day, unasked, went over the out-offices, and complained angrily of the uncleanliness of that part of the premises which used to be Mr. Gouldsbury's cowshed.

I enclose copies of the two letters I have yet been able to find of the series of correspondence which, I have heard, took place between Mr. Jackson and my father *anent* this house affair.

I heard from my father that rather than rent the house to Mr. Jackson and thereby keep up any connection with him, he accepted an offer which was then very opportune by made and sold the house to Mr. Bashford. I cannot say whether my father at the time knew that Mr. Bashford would so soon sell the house to Mr. Jackson.

Yours &c.,
PRAMATHANATH ROY,

The following are the letters referred to above.

Bauleah 15th October 1857.

Mr. Jackson presents his compliments to Raja Prosunno Nath Roy, and begs to remind him of the promise made some months ago that, upon the Commissioner vacating the Raja's house which he then occupied, Mr. Jackson should have the refusal.

Mr. Gouldsbury has since given up the house in question, and Mr. Jackson would be glad to take it when put into thorough repair.

Mr. Jackson believes that the Raja has had some thought of occupying the house himself, but he will at once perceive that with reference to its location in the middle of the houses of European residents, the occupation of the house by the Raja could not be otherwise than inconvenient to all parties.

Under these circumstances Mr. Jackson has no hesitation in asking Raja Prosunno Nath Roy to abide by his promise. Making every allowance for the dilatoriness of native workmen, the house would probably be ready in January next.

Mr. Jackson will be glad of an early reply.

Bauleah, 23rd October 1857.

SIR:—I received yesterday your obliging letter of the 19th.

You will permit me to state that in reference to your house I made no new request, but claimed the fulfilment of a promise made to me some months ago.

When Mr. Gouldsbury vacated the house in question shortly afterwards, I made no objection to your temporary occupation, if it be for the use of your son, because, owing to circumstances, such an arrangement for a time was not inconvenient to me, but I never intended to give up the refusal which you had promised, and by which I am desirous of profiting. I must observe that there can be no difficulty in obtaining a site for such a building as will accommodate your son in the neighbourhood of the school, supposing that his attendance becomes more punctual than it has been hitherto.

But I am reluctantly obliged by the tenor of your note to declare that it is the contemplated permanent occupancy of this house by your own establishment which more than anything else induces me to trouble you upon the subject. I should have expected that your own feelings would show you how very distasteful such an arrangement would be to the English gentry residing in the neighbourhood. The very different principles in which Bengali and English households are conducted render this unavoidable, whatever the respectability of the native family may be, and in fact some annoyance has been already experienced on that score.

You are of course aware that the lease of the land upon which your house stands, was given with a view to its occupation by one of the official residents, and certainly would not have been granted to any but an European applicant.

In continuing to occupy the house, therefore, as you propose, you would at the same time be doing that which will be disagreeable to the English residents, and, I may say, violating the understanding upon which the erection of your house was permitted. I am satisfied that you have overlooked both these points, and that I need only bring them to your notice to ensure your immediately acting up to your engagement.

I shall be obliged by an early answer, as I shall have arrangements of various kinds to make dependent upon the subject of this letter and the determination to which you may come respecting it.

I am, Sir, Your faithful servant,
(Sd.) LOUIS S. JACKSON.

To RAJA PROSSUNNONATH ROY BAHADUR.

It is to be regretted that the whole series of the correspondence on the subject is now not come-at-able, and no copy of the letters which the Raja wrote on the subject is forthcoming. Had they been available, the case would have been thoroughly laid bare; but in matters of this kind, which transpired well nigh a quarter of a century, and some of the principal actors in which have long since "joined the majority," it is impossible to get such complete evidence as could be wished. Enough, however, is disclosed in the letters above given to show that the sale was not such a simple business as Sir Louis Jackson would fain make us believe. The character of the late Raja's alleged "promise," we cannot ascertain; it was obviously a verbal one, and might have been a dubious unmeaning one, which Mr. Jackson misunderstood, or a pukka one, which the Raja found it inconvenent to abide by: the words used could alone disclose their character, but they have melted into thin air, and we cannot decide with whom rested the fault. It is, however, abundantly clear that the Raja did not wish to let out the house, and the pressure of the Judge of his district was brought to bear upon him. He was not to be allowed to let his own and only son occupy the house; no, he must let it to the Judge, and build a new one for his son. Sir Louis Jackson refers to the lease of the land on which the house was built, and which would not have been granted except under certain conditions; but these conditions would seem not to have been inserted in the lease, for he himself describes them as an "understanding." Certain it is that he did not himself insist on them, and that on the ground because "for a time it was not inconvenient to me," *i. e.*, the conditions were designed before 1850 to meet his convenience in 1857. He adverts, too, to the inconvenience which the European residents would be put to, by allowing the Raja's son dwelling in their midst; but he waved that argument when it was not "inconvenient" to him. Did it occur to him when, on his departure from the district he sold the house we believe to a native vakil? Did he put in a clause in the sale deed to restrain the said vakil from occupying it himself, or letting it out to a native? We have a notion that such a condition in an absolute deed of sale would not be binding. The argument on his side, we must, however, at once admit, is conclusive when he says, "I never intended to give up the refusal which you had promised and by which I am desirous of profiting." Only we venture to think that Sir Louis would very strongly resent any attempt to make him sell any of his property in order that some body might profit by it. Any how it was a question of profit for Sir Louis Jackson and not of convenience of the European residents of Boalia. It appears too that he did not bear a good will towards the late Raja for his recusancy; for we find in a private letter to us from the present Raja that Mr. Jackson, after two years of this house dispute, insisted upon the personal attendance of the late Raja in civil court, though he had been exempted from attendance by order of Government. The Raja had to move the Sudder Dewany to get the order quashed.

We may know something more of this affair if Sir Louis Jackson will condescend to tell us what was the date of the purchase of the house by Mr. Bashford, the date of the purchase by Mr. Jackson, and the date of the purchase from him by the native vakil, the price Mr. Bashford paid to the late Raja, the price Mr. Jackson paid to Mr. Bashford, and the price Mr. Jackson received from the vakil. Pending the receipt of information on these heads we ask the reader to say how far the above correspondence tallies with Sir Louis Jackson's statement—"I bought no house from the Raja of Dighaputia directly or indirectly, if the allusion is meant to convey a suggestion that the Raja ever had a house for residence at that station, it is misleading."

The third point is met by Sir Louis Jackson's admission that for a time he "determined to have no intercourse with him, (Mr. Justice Mitter) other than official." Had Justice Dwarkanath Mitter been living, he would doubtless have shown us the other side of the shield.

LETTERS ON THE RENT BILL.

III.

WE have received from our esteemed correspondent the following interesting analysis of the Rent Bill:

> An analysis of the innovations proposed by the Rent Law Commission in order to confer upon the rayat the right to transfer holdings and tenures.

Secondary provisions required to give effect to the primary provisions for transfer of occupancy right.	Qualifications as to the primary and secondary provisions.	Further exceptions
....		
Transfer valid only when under decree for its own arrear .Section20cla.	Mortgages shall be invalid. Section 20 cl. d.	Mortgages closed privately by conveyance shall be valid. Section 20 clb.
	Sales in execution of decrees for debts other than rent may not be valid. Section 20 cla.	Such sales may be given effect to at the option of the landlord Section 46.
Non-payment of rent shall not determine relation of landlord and tenant. Section 79. Exph-	Except when nobody is found to bid for the land or tenure. Section 207 clb.	....
Transferer of holding or tenure *personally* liable for dues before notice of transfer is given to Landlord. Section 48 cl *c*.	The tenure or holding may be brought to sale for its own arrears. Section 201 Et Seq.	Surplus proceeds of sale if any go to the debtor rayat. Section 211 cl 4.
		If the land won't sell the landlord shall be debarred from getting his dues. 207 clb.
Every transfer must be had registered in the landlord's office. Section 46.	The landlord may refuse to register a sale in execution of a decree for other debts or a succession without title. Section 46 and 52.	If a Court of Justice pronounces the refusal to have been unjust the landlord shall be liable for damages Section 52.
		If the landlord does not refuse where he might justly do so he suffers for his neglect Section 46.
		A landlord may not compel the attendance of his tenants for any purpose. 72. clb, *ergo* he must decide questions of inheritance by inspiration.
The transferer or successor omitting register transfer the landlord shall be entitled to attach and hold possion of tenure. Section 50.	But the landlord shall be liable to transferee for accounts and surplus proceeds. Section 50.	No provision as to how long the liability of the landlord is to continue.
1. The register to be kept according to forms to be furnished by the Board on penalty of 50 Rs. for every breach of every rule made by Board.	2. No provision against fraud or collusion between landlord's amlahs and the parties registering or obtaining copies of register.	.....
1. Copies of the register to be furnished to parties. Section 54.	2. Remuneration for landlords amlahs for the work is —a private question.	....
Parties having to register must not be put to inconvenience by reason of disagreement between coparceners who jointly own or hold property. Section 65.	In case they cannot manage their affairs to the satisfaction of the Judge he shall forthwith make provision for the circumstance leaving a charge upon the property. Section 67.	....
The successor must register before the expiry of the year ensuing thefact of transfer or death Section 51.	If the successor fails the holding shall be at the absolute disposal of the landlord. Section 51.	*Note.*—The succession from father to son first recognised in Act X. of 1859 in the matter of an occupancy right and proposed to be extended to heirs of all sorts is thus restricted by what would be practically a law of limitation but different from the law hitherto in force in regard to succession in general.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

A NATIVE CIVILIAN has acted as a Magistrate and Collector of a District without producing a revolution! The last *Calcutta Gazette* notifies that Mr. Anandaram Borruah, Joint-Magistrate, acted as Magistrate and Collector of Dinagepore from the 28th August to the 16th September. If a Native Civilian could be trusted with the powers of a District Magistrate and Collector for 20 days, why not for 20 months and so forth?

LORD LYTTON performed the ornamental part of his exalted office most gracefully and effectively. His speeches on all ceremonial occasions, though prepared with elaborate care, were splendid specimens of rhetoric, wit, and anecdotal raciness. Lord Ripon does not evidently command his predecessor's rich stores of literary treasure, but his good sense, philanthropic spirit, earnestness and simple eloquence command, we should say, greater admiration. Within a few days of each other His Lordship delivered two speeches at Simla, which are particularly distinguished for these qualities. His speech at the Patriotic Fund Meeting was excellent in its way, but we do not agree with His Lordship in the view he has taken of the obligation of the general community to assist the sick and wounded in the Affghan war, as we hold that that obligation rests upon the State as the representative of the tax-payers. We need not therefore dwell upon it. The other speech was delivered at the opening of the Fine Arts Exhibition. It was a truly statesmanlike speech. We will quote the following remarks of His Lordship on Art as a manifestation of the national character. His Lordship said:

I will venture to say that all the best Art which the world has ever seen has been truly national, the outcome of the religion, the history and the civilisation of each race. I confess for myself that I have no faith in eclecticism in Art. Art is not a dead thing to be merely copied from the models of the part, It is in its full power and perfection, the result and, as it were, the flower of a nation's whole life (applause) And therefore if Art is to flourish among the Natives of India it must be Indian Art, not a cold and barren imitation, how ever clever, of the Art of Europe, but the real product of the life and traditions of this land (applause). I rejoice to hope that from the small and humble beginnings of this Exhibition which we see here to-day, those small beginnings from which almost all great and useful things have their commencement, may come forth the cultivation by the natives of this country of their own Art which will restore their claim to be counted among the artists of the world (applause). In this, as in all things in India, it is our duty not to stifle or overpower the national life of the country, but to develope and uphold it (applause). If we were here only for a day, holding our position solely by our power and retaining our grasp on India merely from the lust of Empire, then we might perhaps desire that all national feelings, all recollection of their early history, all love of their characteristic art, should die out of the hearts of the Indian people. Bnt if we believe, as I believe, that we occupy our present place in India in the course of God's providence, not merely as passing conquerors, but with a great work to do for the people of the country which will be interwoven with their history, and which has its due part to fulfil in their progress then it should be our aim to keed alike all that is high and beautiful and noble in their past traditions and their past national life, and to encourage them to reverence and to admire it (applause). Nothing is easier than to destroy, and of all things Art can perhaps be destroyod most easily and one form of desteraction is sometimes known in Europe under the name af restoration. I hope the day is not far distant when the ancient monuments of India may be placed under such control as will tend to preserve them inact and unmutilated to future ages (applause). For it should be our endeavour more and more in this country not to pestroy but to improve, not to overthrow the traditions and native civilization of some of the most ancient races of the earth but to elevate and purify and develope them; to retain and strengthen what is good to remove what is false and evil, and thus to wed together in indissoluble and prolific union the earliest developments of the Aryan races (applause) I am the last man in the world to shrink from changes which the advance of time renders necessary or cling to obsolete usages merely because they are old. I have no sympathy with the dry and barren spirit of conservatism which struggles to preserve institutions and habits from which all life has departed; but at the same time I am strongly convinced that reform, to be real and effective must be tempered by reverence and must be a growth and not a mere construction; and while I would give the people of India the fullest benefit of modern science and modern knowledge of Western progress and Western civilization I should desire to blend them with their own historical traditions so as to supplant no portion of them, except by something better, and to retain the harmony and continuity of their national life (applause.)

Nothing could be better in spirit than these remarks. We fervently hope that His Lordship will carry out all his work with the same noble spirit that the above words breathe.

THERE ARE three subjects for which Mr. Beverley's brief administration of the Calcutta Municipality will remain distinguished in its annals. Firstly, for the vigor with which he has worked the Arrear and Warrant Department in the collection of arrears, secondly, for the great labour he has taken in compiling the literature of the water supply question, and thirdly for the determination and zeal with which he has sought to clear that Augean Stable, the License Tax Department. The Report of the Sub-Committee on the License Department was adopted at last Thursday's meeting of the Commissioners. Three Inspectors go out. At the adjourned meeting on Saturday last the new Rules for the Municipal Market were discussed, and the clauses authorizing the Chairman and the Superintendent to impose fines were thrown out as *ultra vires*. Dr. Rajendralala Mitra strongly animadverted on the construction of a double line of tramway through the greater part of the Chitpore Road in contravention of the contract and without notice to the Commissioners. The appointment of a store-keeper on Rs. 250 a month was sanctioned. There was a division on the question whether or no the store-keeper should possess a knowledge of engineering. Dr. Rajendralala Mitra moved that the condition requiring knowledge of engineering be dispensed with. The meeting thus divided on the question:

FOR.	AGAINST
Babu Goneeh Chunder Chunder	Mr Wilson
Moulvi Ahmed	Mr Hart
Babu Grindra Chunder Dutt	Mr Mendes
Babu Preo Nath Dutt	Babu Kally Nath Mitter
Babu Gopee Nath Mukerjee	Babu Nobo Gopal Mitter
Babu Jogesh Chunder Dutt	Babu Surendra Nath Banerjee
Dr Rajendralala Mitra	Babu Bhoobun Mohun Sircar
Babu Radha Romon Mitter	Babu Joy Gobind Law
Babu Mudoo Sudon Dutt	Moulvi Surajul Islam
Babu Charu Chunder Mullick	Honble Kristodas Pal
Babu Nobin Chunder Bose	Babu Jodoo Lal Mullick
Babu Sreenath Chunder	The Chairman 12
Babu Roma Kant Sen	DECLINED TO VOTE
Rai Kanye Lall Dey	Babu Juggodanund Mukerjee
Babu Sreenath Ghose	The Vice Chairman
Babu Lal Madhub Mukerjee	
Maharaja Narendra Krishna	
Babu Rajendra Nath Mitter	
Babu Sreenath Das	
Babu Goocool Chunder Dhur	
Babu Nobin Chunder Bural 21	

A CASE of considerable importance relating to assessment under the Imperial License Tax was lately tried in appeal before the Bombay High Court. The appellant was in the year 1879 charged Rs. 25 for a license. Being served with a notice to pay the amount he appealed to the Collector of Khaira. The Collector increased the amount to Rs. 60, which was recovered from Pujabhai the aggrieved, and a license granted. He appealed to the District Judge of Ahmedabad stating that his annual income did not exceed Rs. 1,000, and the Collector without making proper enquiry wrongly assumed that his income was Rs. 3,000. The Judge rejected the appeal on the ground that the Bombay License Tax Act of 1878, Section 12, authorises the Collector to pass such order as he thinks fit. This includes enhancement. Section 23 of the said Act excludes appeals. The Act makes the Collector a Judge for the purposes of the Act, and therefore no cause of action has arisen. Against the above decision an appeal was preferred to the High Court. The grounds of appeal were that the sections of Act X of 1877 quoted by the District Judge do not authorise him to reject the plaint; that the District Judge was wrong in holding that Sections 12 and 23 of Bombay Act 3 of 1878 authorised the Collector to enhance the amount in appeal; that the decision quoted by the District Judge does not apply to the facts of the present case, and that Bombay Act 3 of 1878, being a Revenue Act, should have been strictly construed against Government.

The High Court held that the section 12 Bombay Act 3 of 1878 did not authorise the Collector to enhance the fee on the plaintiff as contemplated by section 11. Section 12 says that, "the Collector may pass such order thereon as he thinks fit." These words are doubtless large, but the Act being a fiscal Act, and therefore to be construed strictly, the Court thought the words "order thereon" must be taken as meaning an order relevant to the petition, which an order enhancing the fee cannot be deemed to be. As the Collector has exceeded his authority under the Act, the case does not fall within the principle of decision quoted, which the Court should have otherwise considered applicable; the plaintiff has therefore a cause of action against the Collector to recover the difference between Rs. 60 and the sum of Rs. 25 mentioned in the list published under section 10 of the Act. This Court, therefore, reverses the order of the Court below and directs that the plaint be admitted. Collector to pay plaintiff his costs of this appeal." Mr. Pujabhai Ghellabhoy has rendered a service to the tax-paying community, for which they ought to feel thankful to him. We fear his was not a solitary instance of enhancement on appeal. We wish others had public spirit to seek redress in a court of law.

AN OLD BRAHMAN, grown crazy by life-long study of Indian logic, had occasion to go to a

distant village to collect rent, and, to provide against robbery during his absence, had enjoined his son not to admit any one into the house after night-fall, not even himself, should he return late. Having finished his work quickly, he came back to his village soon after night-fall, and thought it strange that he, the master of his own house, and father of the family, should not be allowed to enter it, and that too by his own son. This was intolerable, so instead of going to his own house, he repaired to the nearest thanah, and complained to the Darogah of the unnatural conduct of the son, strengthening the gravity of his complaint by paying the little money he had with him for the purchase of *pan supari*. The Darogah, nothing loath, came to the house, and ordered the son to be tied up, and treated with the constable's baton. The son protested his innocence, when the father advanced, and asked if he would not have done so, knowing that he had orders not to admit any one into the house after night-fall? The Chairman of the Calcutta Corporation is a logician of the same stamp, and lately afforded a humorous illustration of his powers of ratiocination. He had called no body "to order," but, said he, if he had done so the offender would not have heard him; and, not having a thanna at hand, or thinking himself to be the constable, freely plied his baton. The sight was a good one, worthy of the august Corporators of Calcutta. It is no wonder that after that he should be convinced that the Commissioners attend the Municipal meetings and make long speeches solely to see themselves in print next morning; and, in the true style of Bombastis Furioso, gratuitously and obtrusively proclaims his determination to express his opinion "without any wish to curry favour with any gentleman by telling things he did not believe." He knew well that if he did not do so he would be wanting in his duty, and for any thing we know, would be in perfect order were he to urge that the moon is made of green cheese, if he thought so. It is only desirable that he should remember that others have the same right to express their opinion. He trusted that the Commissioners should be straightforward to him, and we will not be disappointed if he did not wince under free and outspoken criticisms nor display any hasty disposition to resort to his baton.

PERHAPS the most beneficent of Native Princes has passed away. The Maharaja of Jeypore is dead. His father, Maharaja Jey Sing, died when Maharaja Ram Sing was only two years old. During his minority the State was under the management of a Council of Regency under the presidency of the Political Agent. Many reforms had been introduced in the administration of the State by the Council of Regency, and when Maharaja Ram Sing ascended the Guddi, he shewed every willingness to carry on the government in the same spirit. He was intensely loyal to the English, and rendered friendly and loyal services to the British Government during the Mutinies of 1857-58. He shewed his appreciation of the character of British rule by modelling his own Government on its lines; he created a Council of State, divided the administration into several departments, paid special attention to public works, education, and sanitation, and introduced gas and water-pipes into his capital. He was kind to English-educated natives, and among the Native Princes he was perhaps the warmest friend of the educated Bengali. In his State the latter has found a home which he has not found in any other Native state. Personally he was very intelligent, shrewd, unostentatious, kind-hearted, and high-minded. In him India loses one of her most meritorious and enlightened Princes.

A TERRIBLE accident has occurred at Naini Tal. About forty Europeans were killed; the number of native life lost is not known. The *Indian Daily News* has received the following telegram on this subject:

Allahabad, September 23, 5*h* 10*m*.—The wire beyond Bareilly was, and is still, interrupted.

Heavy rain began on Thursday evening last. It continued pouring hard till Saturday morning the gauge showing a fall of 25 inches in 40 hours.

It would cost a lak of rupees to exhume the dead.

Swift as a torrent and mighty as an avalanche the huge wave of earth swept down upon the station.

The catastrophe was too sudden to allow of any escaping.

Some houses are still considered unsafe. Dr. Walker's house is threatened. The whole of Sherkadunda Hill is in danger and people are leaving their houses, and going to the church end of the station.

At the moment the avalanche fell into the lake, a wave some six feet high, ran its whole length to Tulli Tal, and nearly swept away General Ramsay, who was superintending the enlargement of the outlet.

The Assembly Rooms and Library were simply lifted entire, like a stone, and dashed into the lake.

If the entire hill comes down, the lake must be silted up, and Naini Tal will be a thing of the past.

Such a fearful loss of life from a mere accident had never before been known in India.

COMMERCIAL.

(FROM OUR COMMERCIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Saturday, 25th September, 1880.

The epitome of our commercial news for the past week present facts of a more favorable character than we have had for some time past and a considerable amount of business was done both in imports and exports.

Piece-Goods.—This market after suffering depression for a long time has at last been relieved by the happy news of plenty of rains having fallen over the consuming districts, followed by a demand from those places, which led to a series of transactions, chiefly in grey sorts, *viz*., shirtings 8¼lbs 50 and 54 M. wide makes, Jaconets Madapallams, Tea-cloth, Dhootees and Drills—prices in some have slightly advanced in others there has been a tendency to rise.

Yarns.—Import kinds have been very dull but the country manufactures met with some enquiry from Rangoon and Lower Bengal in 20s. 16s. and 10s. prices in consequence have slightly advanced.

Exports.—At the public sale of the 23rd instant, 10,580 chests were offered, all found buyers except 1,450 chests, the demand was not so good as it was at the previous sales and prices were lower except for fine sorts.

Jute.—This market continued active but prices have been declining in consequence of heavy supplies. They were at the close of the week for low to good, 3-5 to 4-12 including Dasee and Daronah.

Oil-Seeds.—Linseed has rather been quiet and prices have slightly declined. In Rape and Poppy seeds nothing of importance has transpired.

Wheat.—Small transactions at previous rate.

Rice.—About 25,000 bags of 2 mds. each of all sorts found buyers at the following rates.

Table ..	...	...	3	2	at 3	4
Monghy	...	...	2	6	at 2	9 6
Ballam	..	...	2	2	at 2	5
Raree...	...	...	2	0	at 2	6
Soloe...	...	...	1	13	at 1	15
Kheearee	...	...	1	7	at 1	14

MONETARY.

Money continues easy and there has been a change in the rates of interest or discount.

GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

Market has been steady but towards the latter end of the week it had an easier tendency prices ruling 96-1 95-6 for 4% and 104-8 and 104-7 for 4½%.

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

This market has been pretty steady and fair amount of business done, in Jute, Coal, Cement and IceCo.'s shares,

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

		Rs.	As.	P.
R.G.S. Roberts Esq., District Engineer, Purneah		19	0	0
Sheo Golam Singh, Esq., Sarun		9	0	0
Moulvi Jonnab Hossain, Gya		6	10	0
M. Rungia Naidoo Esq., Durbhanga		3	5	0
Dr. Brij Lal, Lahore		15	0	0
Rai Ramonimohun Chowdry, Tushbhander		13	4	0
P. De Cruz Esq., Bauskhali		10	0	0
Baboo Pearymohun Bose, Durbhangah		13	4	0
,, Dabendracoomar Roy Chowdry, Barripore		13	4	0
,, Jodoonath Mittra, Jamtara		13	0	0
,, Luckhonchunder Kurmokar, Saidpore		8	4	0
,, Gyanchunder Mookerji, Bolagore		6	10	0
,, Sarodachurn Gun, Kaligunge		10	0	0
,, Poornochunder Ghose, Rajshahye		6	10	0
,, Ashootose Ghose, Chundernagore		13	4	0
,, Brojomohun Mittra, Rawalpindi		13	4	0
,, Wopendranath Ghose, Kasba		17	8	0
,, Bykuntaath Sen, Saidabad		13	4	0
,, Bhubonmohun Kor, Sunamgunge		10	0	0
,, Beharilal Chatterji, Adamwahan		19	14	0

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—*September* 22, 1880.

GENERAL—Baboo Kali Sunker Sen, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on special duty as Manager of the Courjon estate in the district of Noakholly, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act VII (B.C.) of 1880

Baboo Juggut Chunder Shome, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Baraset, 24-Pergunnahs is transferred to Chittagong.

Baboo AnantoLal Chatterjee temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, Bongong, in the district of Nuddea, was on leave under section 4, rule 1, Supplement F of the Civil Leave Code, from the 15th to the 31st ultimo, both days inclusive.

Mr. J. O'Kinealy, Superintendent and Remembrancer of Legal Affairs, is allowed furlough for six months under Section 21. chapter IV of the Civil Leave Code from 11th proximo.

Mr. A. H. Haggard B. C. S., has been granted an extension of sick leave for three months by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India.

Moonshee Burmeshwar Proshad is appointed temporarily to be a Sub-Deputy Collector of the Second Grade and is posted to the Pachamba Division of the district of Hazareebigh, *vice* Baboo Kali Prosonno Dey, resigned. This appointment will have effect from the date on which Moonshee Burmeshwar Proshad joined his appointment.

Mr. E. N. Baker, Assistant Magistaate and Collector Lohardugga, is appointed to have temporary charge of the Gobindpore Division of the Manbhoom district, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. H. H. Risley, or until further orders.

Advertisements.

NOTICE.

HOOGHLY AND HOWRAH DISTRICT WORKS.

Notice is hereby given that Tenders for all works including Earthwork, masonry, stone and brick metalling, &c., are hereby called for. The tenders will embrace all works in each sub-division under the Hooghly and Howrah Road Cess Committee, and the approximate value of the work to be undertaken in each sub-division is as under.

Jehanabad	...	Rs.	8,725	0
Panduah	...	...	3,808	0
Hooghly	...	...	13,733	0
Serampore	...	...	11,827	0
Howrah	...	...	16,479	0

All information with regard to rates, &c., can be obtained from the District Engineers' Office, Hooghly. All Tenders to be submitted with earnest money as per general rules on the 6th October, 1880, at 2 P.M., the earnest money being of course returned in the event of the tender not being accepted.

Neither the lowest nor any tender will necessarily be accepted.

All certificates must accompany the Tenders which must be sealed, and addressed with the words "Tender for ——— sub-division" on the cover to the District Engineer. HOOGHLY.

P. W. D.

COAL WANTED.

Seald tenders are invited for the supply of 11,000 maunds of good fresh rubble coal for brick burning at the brick fields on the river banks of Barisaul.

The tenders must be sealed and endorsed "Tender for coal, Barisaul" and will be received at the office of the Executive Engineer until the 25th October 1880. Sealed samples legibly ticketed to be forwarded with the name of the Tenders.

Tenders to be in the P. W. D. Form No. 14 M. and accompanied by rupees 200 in curency notes as earnest money.

5000 maunds of coal to be delivered within one month from the date of the acceptance of the Tender and the remainder within 2 months from that date.

The successful tenderer will be required to deposit 10 per cent. of the amount of his Tender as security for the due fulfilment of his contract.

Executive Engineer reserves the right of rejecting the whole or any of the tenders.

Dacca. The 16th September 1880. } F. SILLS C. E. Executive Engineer *Dacca Division.*

BIRTH.

BOROOAH.—At Debrugarh, Assam, on the 14th September, 1880, Srimati Muktavali Borooani, the wife of Srijut Poornanund Borooah, Extra Assistant Commissioner, of a daughter.

TO MAHARAJAHS, RAJAHS, &c.

TO LET FURNISHED.

For six months or more.

That most splendid, commodious two-storied house "Ray Castle" 3 Albert Road, Calcutta, facing the Victoria Square, with a magnificent marbled south veranda, gardens, &c. Furnished in the most recent style—well worth the consideration of the Chiefs and Nobles of India, who intend to stay in the metropolis during the Vice-regal residence. Apply to Baboo J.N. Ray at the premises.

Messrs Breuer Chatterjee & Co.

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Civil and Mechanical Engineers,

SURVEYORS AND CONTRACTORS.

OFFICE:—

4, *Hastings Street, Calcutta.*

NOTICE

Babu Rojonikant Chatterji, is only member of our firm who will sign bills and receipts, and is alone authorized to receive and pay money on account of our firm.

BREUER CHATTERJI, & Co.,
4 Hastings Street, Calcutta.

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Sanskrit Series.

	Rs.	As.
Chaitanya Chandrodaya, Nataka, 3 fasci. ...	1	14
Srauta Sutra Asvalayana, 11 fasci ...	6	14
——— Latyayana, 9 fasci. ...	5	10
Sankara Vijaya, 3 fasci. ...	1	14
Dasa Rupa, 3 fasci. ...	1	14
Kaushitaki Brahmanopanishad , 2 fasci. ...	1	4
Sankhyasara, 1 fasci.	0	10
Lalitavistara, 6 fasci. ..	3	12
Taittiriya Brahmana, 24 fasci. ...	15	0
Taittirya Sanhita, 31 fasci ...	19	6
Taittiriya Aranyaka 11 fasci ...	6	14
Maitri Upanishad, 3 fasci ...	1	14
Asvalayana Grihya Sutra, 4 fasci ...	2	8
Mimansa Darsana, 14 fasci ...	8	12
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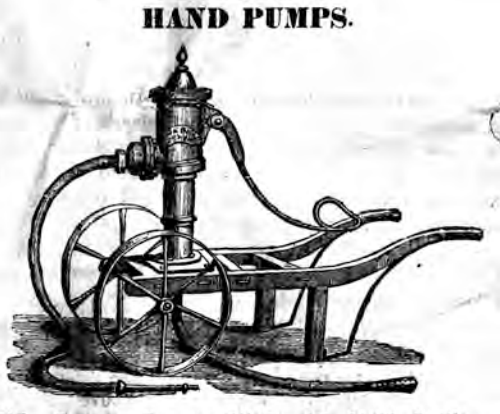

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	1871-74.	1876-79,
New Assurances ...	£3,204,135	£3,998,880
Revenue	£1,542,144	£1,744,598
Additions to Funds ...	£321,077	£502,686

Report by the Directors

PRESENTED TO THE

Seventieth Annual General Meeting of the Company.

Held at Edinburgh, on Friday, 2nd April, 1880.

The Directors submit the following Report on the business of the Company during the year which closed on the 31st December 1879.

Life Business.

During the year there were issued 1,084 Policies assuring £922,044, the new Premiums on which amount to £30,410-17-1.

For the year 1879 the Income of the Life Department from Premiums and interest amounted to £448,696-4-7.

The Claims which arose during the year, including 17 Endowments, were 265 in number, arising under 322 Policies, and the sums which became payable on account of these amount, with Bonus additions, to the sum of £279,054-2-0, after deducting re-assurances. The Life Assurance Fund now amounts to £2,989,885-11-4, being an increase of £137,319-0-1 over the amount on 31st December 1878. The whole of this fund is separately invested, and by Act of Parliament is set aside to meet the claims under this Department of the Company's business.

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Printed and published by WOOMESH CHUNDER NUNDI, *at the* HINDOO PATRIOT PRESS, No. 108, BARANUSSY GHOSE'S STREET, CALCUTTA.